



BY ROY THOMAS, RICHARD HOWELL, AND LARRY HOUSTON

60¢
U.K. 25p
CAN. 75¢



NO. 27
NOV.



**SPECIAL
JUSTICE
SOCIETY
ISSUE!**

ALL-STAR SQUADRON

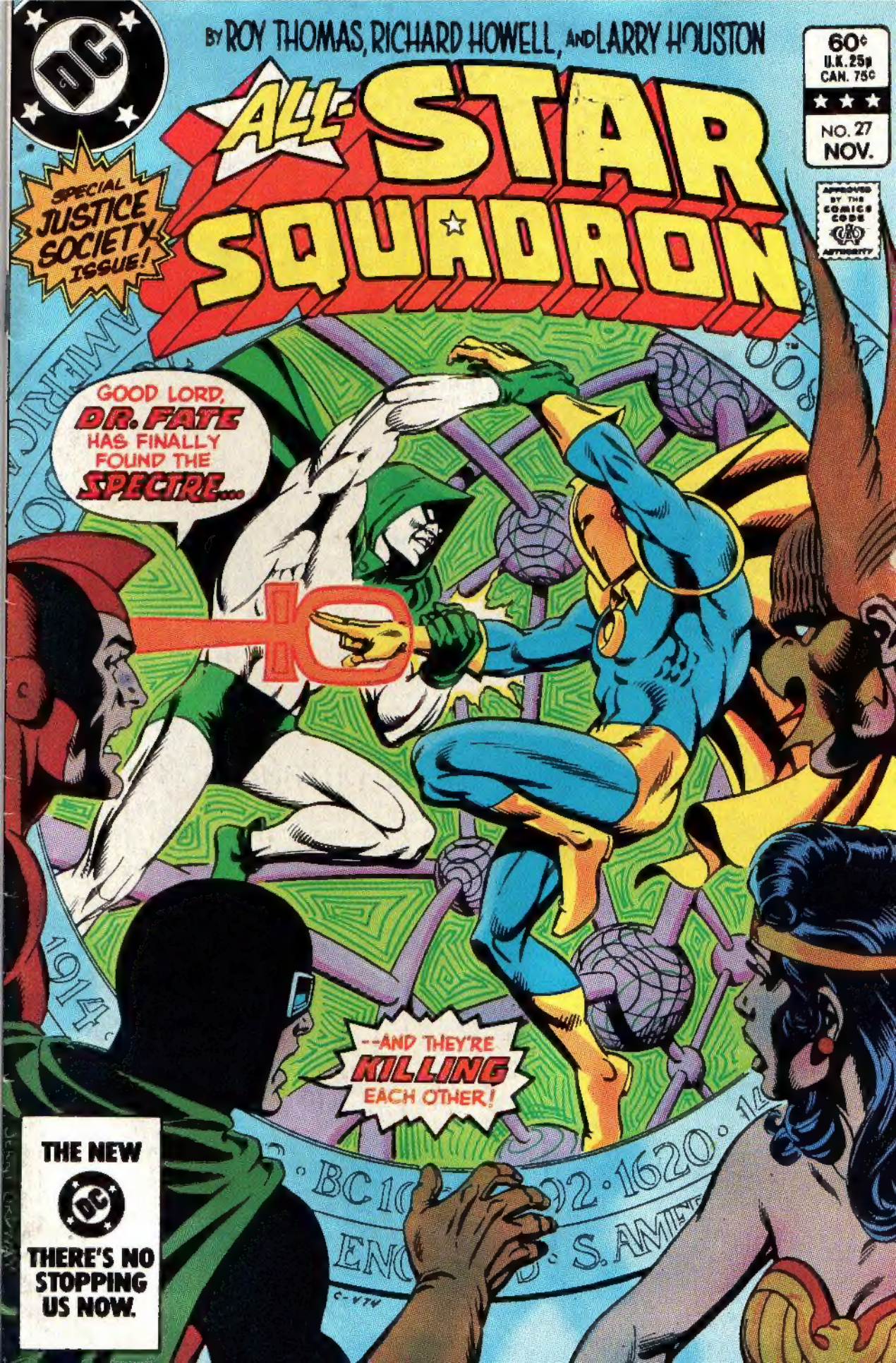
GOOD LORD,
DR. FATE
HAS FINALLY
FOUND THE
SPECTRE...

--AND THEY'RE
KILLING
EACH OTHER!

THE NEW



**THERE'S NO
STOPPING
US NOW.**



A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY TO GET FREE MPC KITS IS HERE.



HERE.

HERE.

HERE.



SAVE THESE SPECIAL TOKENS FOR FREE MPC KITS.

From now on, Golden Opportunity™ tokens just like these come on every MPC kit box, and only on MPC kit boxes. And you can exchange them for free MPC models.

Collect only 10 tokens and you can get a Sea Knight, a Corsair, an Ajax Destroyer or World

War II combat figures. Collect up to 30 tokens and choose from a big 747, a Forrester Carrier, 1/20 Scale Cars and much, much more.

You'll get complete information in your next MPC kit. But start by saving these tokens. Only MPC gives you such a Golden Opportunity.

ONLY four of these special tokens can be used for each Golden Opportunity™ bonus kit selection. All other golden tokens must be cut from MPC kit boxes. Details included in specially marked MPC Golden Opportunity™ kits. Valid in the Continental United States only. Void where prohibited, taxed or restricted.

THE BEST MODELS COME FROM THE BEST KITS.

mpc



Winter, 1942! A WORLD STILL AT WAR, AS IT HAS BEEN FOR MORE THAN TWO YEARS.

NAZI GERMANY HOLDS MOST OF EUROPE ENSLAVED, WHILE ITS WEHRMACHT AND LUFTWAFFE SMASH WITH JUGGERNAUT FORCE AT AN EMBATTLED SOVIET UNION.

IN THE FAR EAST, IMPERIAL JAPANESE FORCES BESIEGE BRITISH SINGAPORE, WHILE THEIR PLANES BOMB ISLANDS ONLY A FEW HUNDRED MILES NORTH OF AUSTRALIA.

YET, AT THIS MOMENT, ON THE ROOFTOP OF A NEW YORK CITY HOSPITAL, IT IS NOT DEATH WHICH IS BEING CELEBRATED... BUT LIFE....!



ALL STAR SQUADRON, Vol. 3, No. 27, November, 1983. Published monthly by DC COMICS INC., 666 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10103. Application to Mail at Second Class Postage Rates is Pending at New York, New York and at Additional Mailing Offices. Copyright © 1983 by DC Comics Inc. All Rights Reserved. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. No actual persons, living or dead, are intended or should be inferred. Printed in U.S.A.

Jenette Kahn, President and Publisher
Dick Giordano, Vice Pres.-Executive Editor
Roy Thomas, Editor
Nicola Culi, Assistant Editor
Karen Berger, Editorial Coordinator
Bob Rozakis, Production Manager
Joe Orlando, Vice Pres.-Editorial Director
Paul Levitz, Vice Pres.-Operations
Bruce Bristow, Marketing Director
Arthur Gutowitz, Treasurer



A Warner Communications Company

Advertising Representative, Sanford Schwarz & Co., 355 Lexington Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10017, (212) 391-1400

SUBSCRIPTION DEPT.: DC COMICS INC., P.O. Box 1308-F, Fort Lee, N.J. 07024. Annual subscription rate \$7.20. Outside U.S.A. \$8.20.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to DC COMICS INC., P.O. Box 1308-F, Fort Lee, N.J. 07024

HYPERBOLE? BRAGGADOCIO? PERHAPS. BUT IF YOU WERE TO WITNESS, THIS FEBRUARY SUNSET, THE DRAMATIC DEPARTURE OF NO LESS THAN A DOZEN COSTUMED HEROES FROM THAT SELF-SAME ROOFTOP, PERHAPS YOU'D BE ALMOST TEMPTED TO AGREE WITH THE ATOM.

TOO BAD WE NEVER LEARNED EXACTLY WHO THOSE INFINITY, INC. YOUNGSTERS FROM THE FUTURE WERE, EH, SUPERMAN?

BUT AT LEAST IT SEEMS WE DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT WHERE THE NEXT GENERATION OF MYSTERY-MEN IS COMING FROM.

SHOULD'VE JUST HOPPED A SUBWAY BACK TO MY PRECINCT--BUT IT'S HARD TO TURN DOWN A RIDE INSIDE A POWER BUBBLE.

THIS IS ONE EASY WAY TO DROP IN ON MY FOLKS IN DETROIT.

BACK TO THE PERISPHERE FOR ME. I'VE GOT TILL THE 20TH, HOPE THAT'S TIME ENOUGH TO GET ORGANIZED FOR THE ALL-STARS' FIRST FULL-MEMBERSHIP MEETING!

Had we but world
enough, and time.
Andrew Marvell
(1621-1678)

A SPECTRE IS HAUNTING THE MULTIVERSE!

RIGHT NOW,
WE'VE GOT A WORLD
WAR TO WORRY ABOUT
WINNING--OUR SERVICEMEN
OVERSEAS, AND US ON
THE HOME FRONT.

THAT OUGHT TO
BE ENOUGH TO
KEEP US BUSY FOR
THE NEXT FEW
YEARS--MORE'S
THE PITY.

AND TO KEEP YOU FROM
WONDERING OVERMUCH
ABOUT WHO THAT YOUNG GIRL
JADE WAS--AND WHY HER
POWERS WERE ALMOST
IDENTICAL TO YOURS--

--NOT TO
MENTION WHY
SHE ONCE CALLED
YOU "DADDY"
BEFORE SHE
CAUGHT HERSELF!*

*SEE OUR ANNUAL #2.
STILL ON SALE. --R.

GIVE ME A
CALL, IF ANY
OF YOU GET OUT
TO KEYSTONE
CITY!

BITE
YOUR TONGUE,
FLASH.

I HEAR
THEY STILL ROLL
UP THE STREETS
EVERY NIGHT.

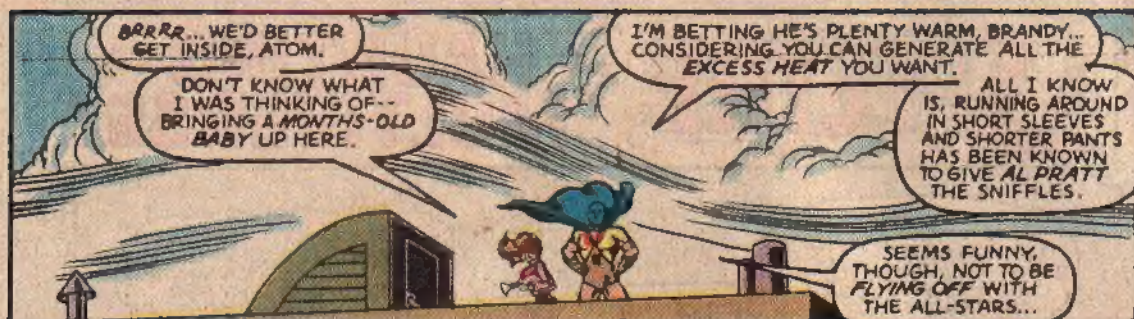
ROY
THOMAS
WRITER/
EDITOR

★ RICHARD
HOWELL
GUEST
ARTIST

★ LARRY
HOUSTON
INKER
PAGES 1-9

DAVID CODY
WEISS
LETTERER

ADRIENNE
ROY
COLORIST



BRRRR... WE'D BETTER GET INSIDE, ATOM.

DON'T KNOW WHAT I WAS THINKING OF-- BRINGING A MONTHS-OLD BABY UP HERE.

I'M BETTING HE'S PLENTY WARM, BRANDY... CONSIDERING YOU CAN GENERATE ALL THE EXCESS HEAT YOU WANT.

ALL I KNOW IS, RUNNING AROUND IN SHORT SLEEVES AND SHORTER PANTS HAS BEEN KNOWN TO GIVE AL PRATT THE SNIFFLES.

SEEMS FUNNY, THOUGH, NOT TO BE FLYING OFF WITH THE ALL-STARS...



...OR JOINING THE JUSTICE SOCIETY DOWN IN WASHINGTON.

HEY, WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

DOOR GOT LOCKED SOMEHOW. DAMN!



WANT ME TO GIVE IT A TRY?

NO, HERE!

HUH? LISTEN, BRANDY, I'M NO GOOD WITH BABIES! I--



YOU THINK I AM, JUST BECAUSE I'M A WOMAN?

IT'S JUST THAT I CAN MELT THIS METAL DOOR A LOT FASTER THAN YOU COULD PUNCH IT IN.



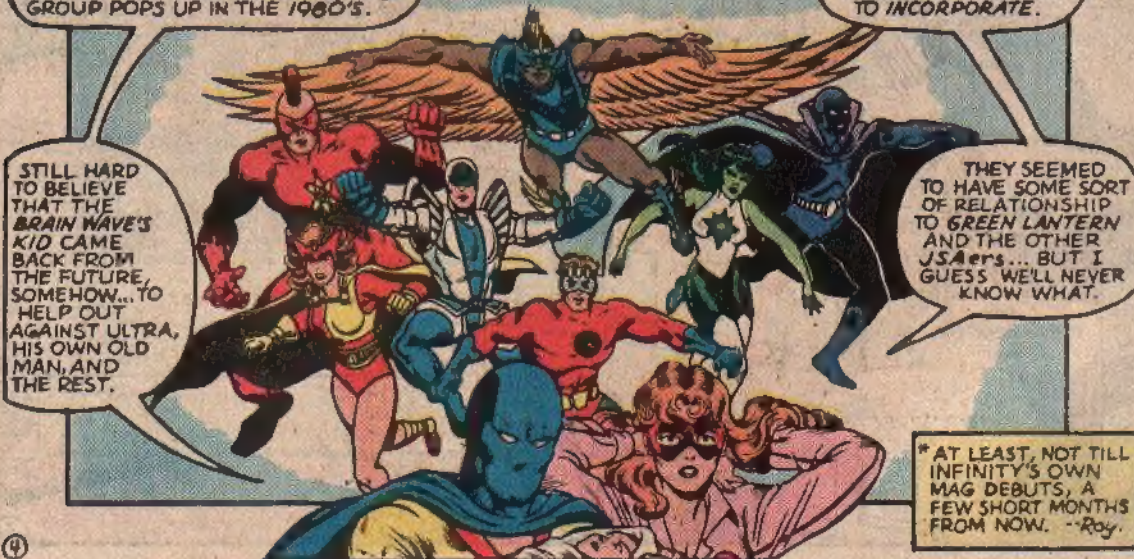
NO NEED TO REMIND ME I'M THE WEAK WILLY OF THE MASKED-HERO SET, LADY.

THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT, AND YOU KNOW IT.

I'M THE ONE WHO'S ONLY BEEN AT THIS GAME FOR A COUPLE OF MONTHS, REMEMBER.

OKAY, YOU'RE STILL FEELING LIKE THE NEW GIRL IN TOWN-- BUT YOU'LL BE COLLECTING SOCIAL SECURITY BY THE TIME THAT INFINITY, INC. GROUP POPS UP IN THE 1980'S.

INFINITY, INC. -- WONDER WHY A BUNCH OF COSTUMED YOUNGSTERS DECIDED TO INCORPORATE.



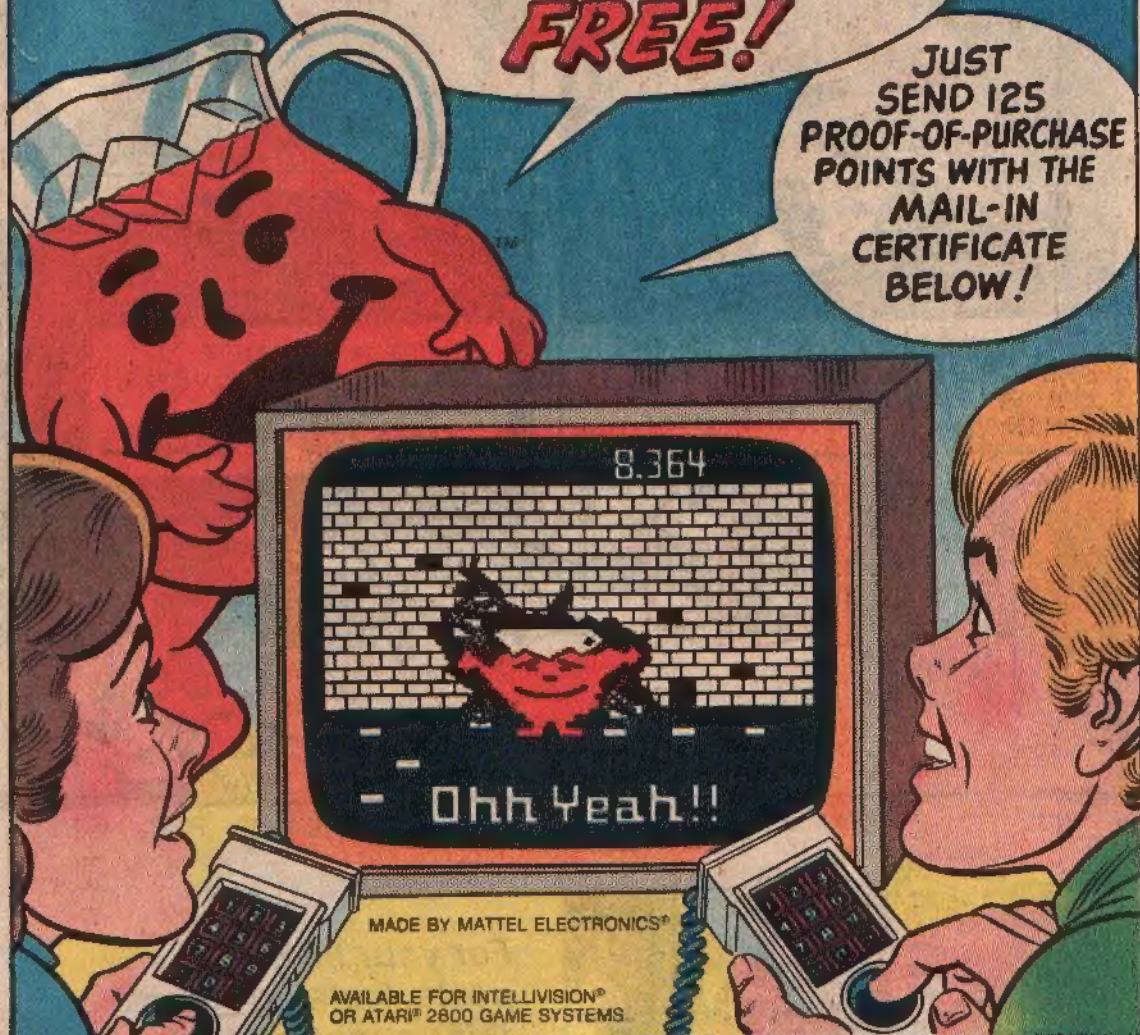
STILL HARD TO BELIEVE THAT THE BRAIN WAVE'S KID CAME BACK FROM THE FUTURE, SOMEHOW... TO HELP OUT AGAINST ULTRA, HIS OWN OLD MAN, AND THE REST.

THEY SEEMED TO HAVE SOME SORT OF RELATIONSHIP TO GREEN LANTERN AND THE OTHER JSAers... BUT I GUESS WE'LL NEVER KNOW WHAT.

*AT LEAST, NOT TILL INFINITY'S OWN MAG DEBUTS, A FEW SHORT MONTHS FROM NOW. --Ray.

GET MY EXCITING NEW
KOOL-AID MAN™ VIDEO GAME
FREE!

JUST
SEND 125
PROOF-OF-PURCHASE
POINTS WITH THE
MAIL-IN
CERTIFICATE
BELOW!



MAIL-IN CERTIFICATE

For Your **FREE** KOOL-AID MAN™ Video Game
worth \$20.00, just send:

check one

- ☐ 125 Kool-Aid® Proof-of-Purchase Points
or
☐ 30 Kool-Aid® Proof-of-Purchase Points **and** \$10.00
(make check payable to Video Game Offer)

Mail To: KOOL-AID MAN™ Video Game Offer
3 Stuart Drive, P.O. Box 8153,
Kankakee, IL 60902

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Check Cartridge Desired: ☐ Intellivision® or ☐ Atari® 2600

Offer void where prohibited, taxed or otherwise restricted. Void in Puerto Rico and Wyoming. Allow 6-8 weeks for processing request. Offer good only in USA and U.S. Government possessions.

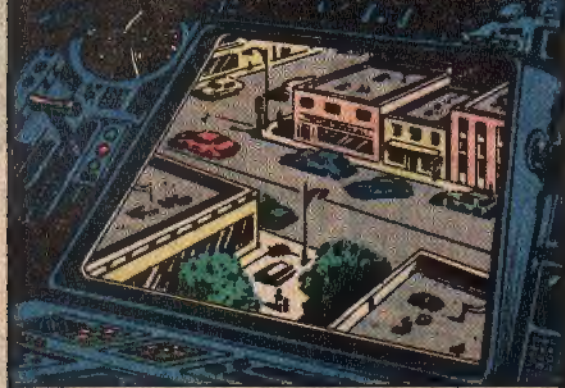
Offer good while supplies last. Certificate must accompany request.

GAME PLAY SHOWN IS FOR THE
INTELLIVISION® GAME SYSTEM AND
SEARS SUPER VIDEO ARCADE
SYSTEM. ALSO AVAILABLE
SEPARATELY FOR THE ATARI® 2600
AND SEARS VIDEO ARCADE SYSTEM

KOOL-AID® AND
KOOL-AID MAN™ ARE
TRADEMARKS OF
THE GENERAL FOODS
CORPORATION

MATTEL ELECTRONICS, M NETWORK AND INTELLIVISION ARE
TRADEMARKS OF MATTEL, INC. ATARI IS A TRADEMARK OF ATARI, INC.

STAR FRONTIERS™



...FROM THE VERY CENTER OF THE GREAT SPIRAL GALAXY... ON A QUEST WITH BUT ONE INTENTION...



... TO A PLANET FORBIDDEN, DRIVEN BY A FORCE **UNSTOPPABLE...**



...NOT KNOWING **WHY**—BUT PROGRAMED TO PURCHASE...



STAR FRONTIERS™ ROLE PLAYING GAME... THE CHOICE OF MILLIONS AS THE BEST WAY TO DEFEND THE **GALAXY!!!**

For your **FREE** poster/catalog complete this coupon and send to:



TSR Hobbies, Inc.

TSR Hobbies, Inc. POB 756, C187-DC2 Lake Geneva, WI 53147
TSR Hobbies, (UK) Ltd. The Mill, Rathmore Road Cambridge, ENGLAND CB1 4AD

Name

Address

City State Zip

STAR FRONTIERS is a trademark owned by TSR Hobbies, Inc. ©1983 TSR Hobbies, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

GUESS NOT. ANYWAY, IT'S THIS KID CONCERNS US RIGHT NOW.

SOMEHOW I FEEL RESPONSIBLE FOR LITTLE TERRI. I WAS THE LAST ONE TO TANGLE WITH HER DAD... MAYBE I COULD'VE SAVED HIM SOMEHOW.

STAIRWAY TO ROOF

TERRY CURTIS' DEATH WASN'T YOUR FAULT.

HE AND I WERE ENGAGED ONCE, REMEMBER, BEFORE HE MET THE BABY'S MOTHER... SO I KNEW HIM BETTER THAN YOU.

ALL TERRY WANTED-- THE ONLY REASON HE WORKED FOR THE ULTRA-HUMANITE-- WAS SO THAT ULTRA'D USE HER GENIUS TO KEEP HIS BABY GIRL ALIVE, AND--

BUT IF THIS KID INHERITED SOME KIND OF RADIATION THING, LIKE CURTIS CLAIMED, WE SURE CAME TO THE RIGHT PLACE.

HEY DOCTOR--! SORRY, SON, I'M BUSY.

HEY-- YOU OKAY?

SURE, SURE... JUST A LITTLE WARM IN HERE, THAT'S ALL.

I DIDN'T HEAR YOU SO GOOD, DOC.

ULP-- S-SORRY, I-- I DIDN'T SEE YOU THERE, MISTER--

THE NAME'S ATOM.

FORGIVE OUR IMPATIENCE, DOCTOR, BUT THIS IS THE CHILD OF DR. TERRENCE CURTIS-- CYCLOTRON.

YOU MEAN-- ONE OF THOSE WHO TOOK OVER THE HOSPITAL BEFORE?

HER DAD, DOC-- NOT THE KID.

I'LL DO MY BEST FOR HER, OF COURSE. JUST TELL ME ALL YOU KNOW ABOUT HER CONDITION.

SOON, IN THE MATERNITY WARD... YOU LOOK LIKE AN EXPECTANT FATHER YOURSELF, ATOM.

JUST A LITTLE WARM... UNDER THIS DAMN MASK...!

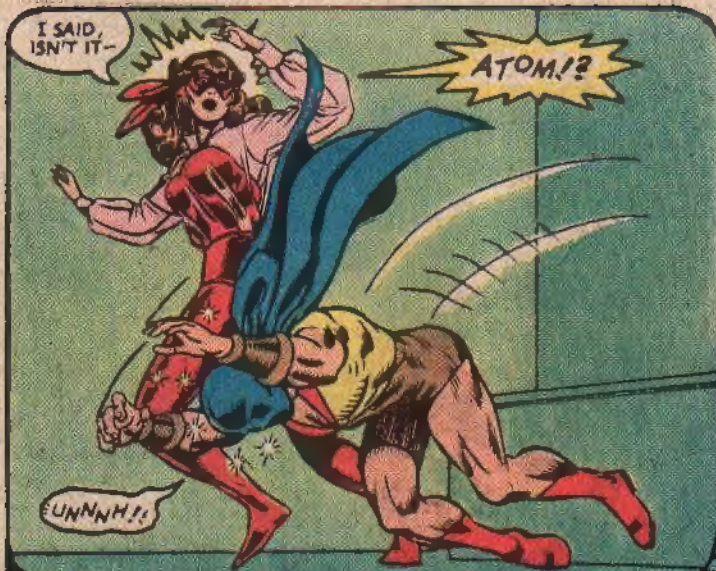
MR. ATOM... MISS FIREBRAND...

WE MUST KEEP HER HERE FOR OBSERVATION, BUT I THINK THE CHILD WILL BE ALL RIGHT.

WHATEVER RADIATION POISONING YOU TOLD ME ABOUT MUST'VE BEEN OF SOME RARE, UNKNOWN TEMPORARY KIND. NO SIGN OF IT NOW.

MAYBE ULTRA INDUCED IT-- TO KEEP TERRY IN LINE.

ISN'T THAT WONDERFUL, ATOM?



-- BUT IF BEING IN THE JUSTICE SOCIETY MEANS HAVING TO LET THE ATOM SUFFER ALONE, AS WELL, THEN I SAY TO HADES WITH IT.

PARDON MY GREEK

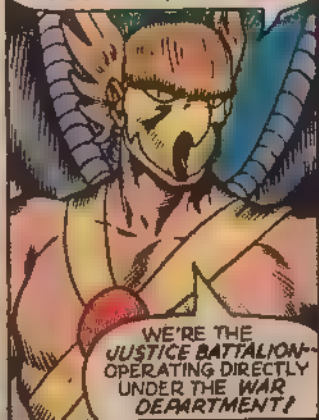


I'M WITH YOU, PRINCESS! MAYBE WE'VE JUST BEEN HANGING AROUND THE CAPITAL FOR A COUPLE OF DAYS -- BUT IT SEEMS LIKE MONTHS.

THEN LET'S GET CRACKING!



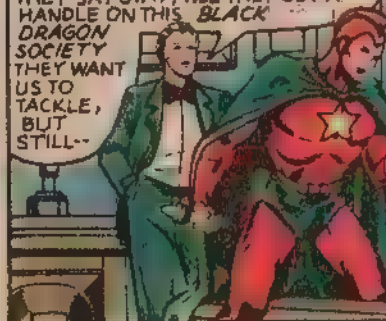
SANDMAN--STARMAN--HOLD IT! I DON'T WANT TO PULL RANK AS CHAIRMAN--BUT WE'RE NOT THE USA FOR THE DURATION, REMEMBER?



WE'RE THE JUSTICE BATTALION--OPERATING DIRECTLY UNDER THE WAR DEPARTMENT!

YEAH, WE KNOW. HAWKMAN--AND THEY SAY STAY, TILL THEY GET A HANDLE ON THIS 'BLACK' -- DRAGON SOCIETY THEY WANT US TO TACKLE, BUT STILL--

A PENNY FOR YOUR THOUGHTS, DR. MID-NITE.

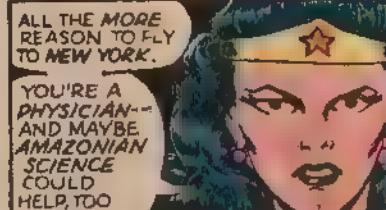


I WAS THINKING ABOUT THE RADIATION THE ATOM ABSORBED. SO LITTLE IS KNOWN ABOUT SUCH THINGS YET..



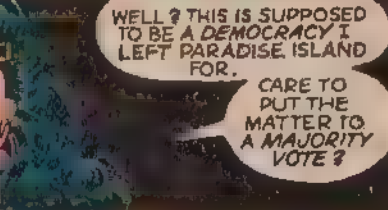
ALL THE MORE REASON TO FLY TO NEW YORK.

YOU'RE A PHYSICIAN--AND MAYBE AMAZONIAN SCIENCE COULD HELP, TOO



WELL? THIS IS SUPPOSED TO BE A DEMOCRACY I LEFT PARADISE ISLAND FOR.

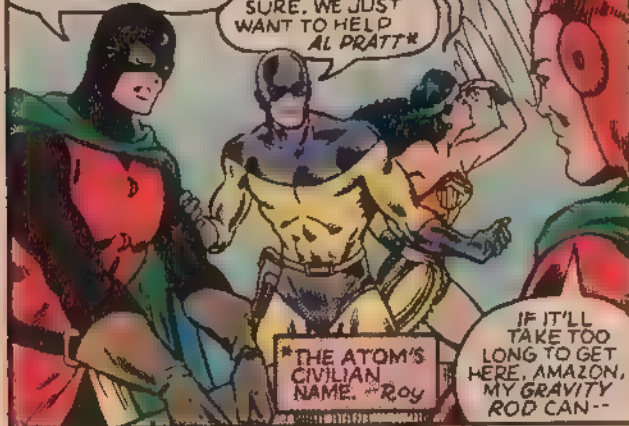
CARE TO PUT THE MATTER TO A MAJORITY VOTE?



NO NEED. THOUGH IF THE HAWK WANTS TO STAY HERE TO GET OUR ORDERS FOR LATER, I FOR ONE WON'T BLAME HIM.

CALLING ROBOT PLANE--!

SURE, WE JUST WANT TO HELP AL PRATT*

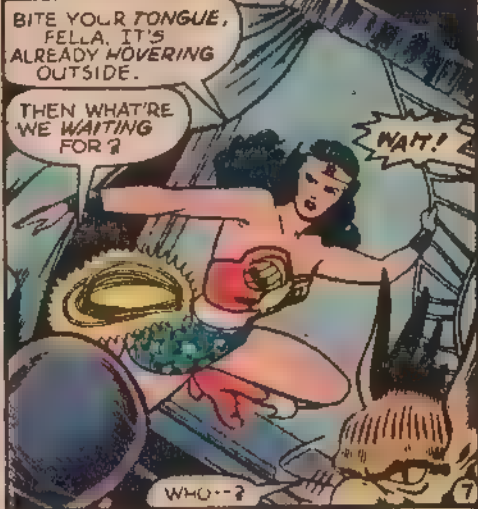


*THE ATOM'S CIVILIAN NAME. Roy

IF IT'LL TAKE TOO LONG TO GET HERE, AMAZON, MY GRAVITY ROD CAN--

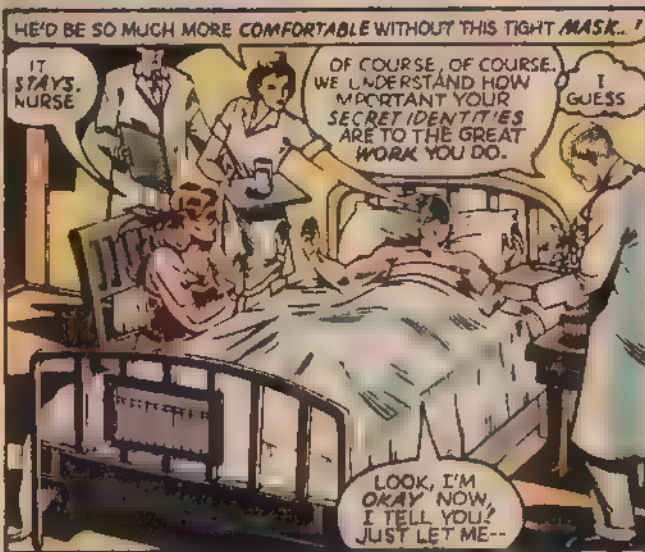
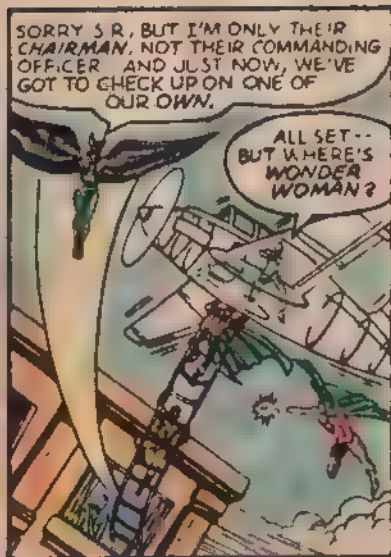
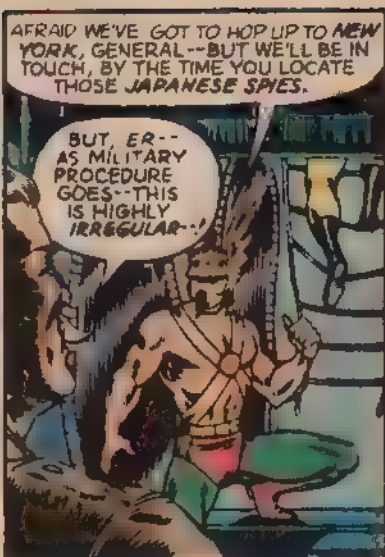
BITE YOUR TONGUE, FELLA. IT'S ALREADY HOVERING OUTSIDE.

THEN WHAT'RE WE WAITING FOR?

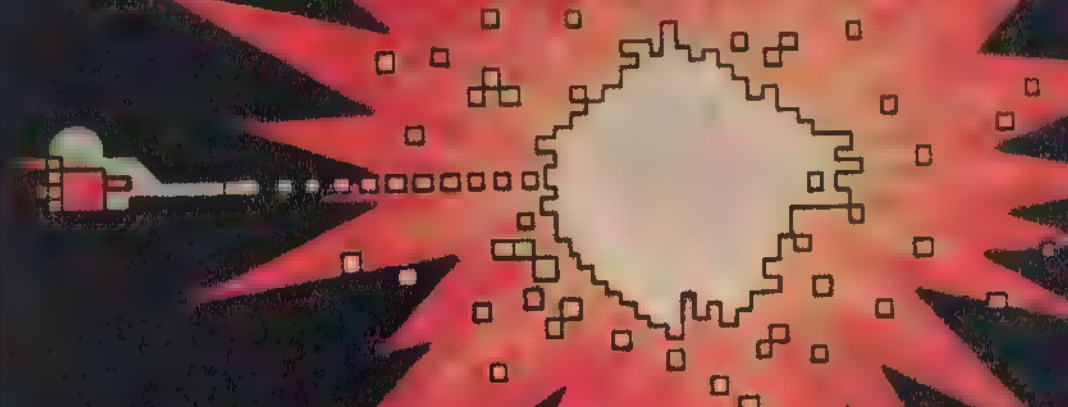


WAIT!

WHO--?



AT \$4.95 A GAME YOU CAN'T MISS



TAKE ANY ONE OF THESE \$4.95 VIDEO GAMES FOR ONLY

Mail Coupon On 1-800-457-0866
call TOLL-FREE (in Indiana call (312)-498-9125 collect.
We'll enroll you over the phone during regular business
hours and charge everything to your credit card. Sorry
phone service only available to credit card customers.)

when you join the Columbia Video Game Club and agree to buy just 2 more games, at regular Club prices, in the coming year.

...all available for home enjoyment on your Atari® Video Computer System™! They retail anywhere from \$26.95 to \$34.95 each, yet you can have any one for only \$4.95—with membership in the Columbia Video Game Club!

...approximately every six weeks (up to 9 times a year) you will receive the Club's colorful Video Game Magazine. It announces the Hit Game Selection, generally a brand-new arcade winner. In addition, the Magazine will picture other video games, new gadgets, hints on how to improve your scores, a poster, etc.

If you want the Hit Game Selection you need do nothing—it will be sent to you automatically. If you want one of the alternate games offered—or nothing, at all—just tell us so on the response card always provided and mail it by the date indicated. You'll always have ten days to make your decision. If you ever receive a game without having had ten days to decide, return it at our expense.

The game cartridges you order will be

COLUMBIA VIDEO GAME CLUB, Dept. 2BX
3000 North 35th Street, Terre Haute, IN 47811

Please accept my application under the terms outlined in this ad—and enroll me under the offer checked here:

Send me the game indicated below, for which I am enclosing check or money order for \$4.95. I agree to buy 2 more games, at regular Club prices, in the coming year. 100

Send me the 2 games indicated below, for which I am enclosing check or money order for \$9.90. I agree to buy 4 more games (at regular Club prices) in the next 2 years. 102

Write in the number(s) of the game(s) you want.

we'll send complete details of the Club's operation with your introductory cartridge. If you are not satisfied for any reason, return everything within 10 days for a full refund and you will have no further obligation.

You can have ANY TWO of these video games for only \$4.95 each—if you agree to buy four more (at regular Club prices) in the coming two years! Just check box in application and enclose \$9.90 for your two games.

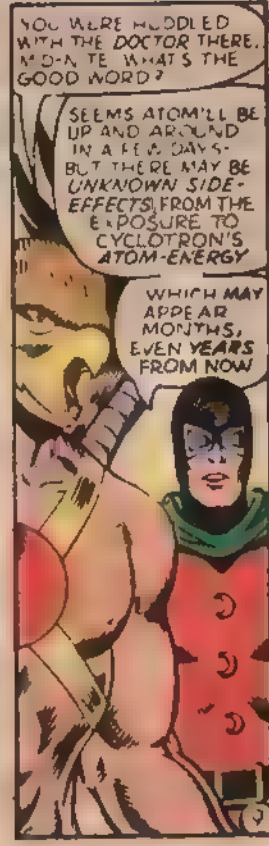
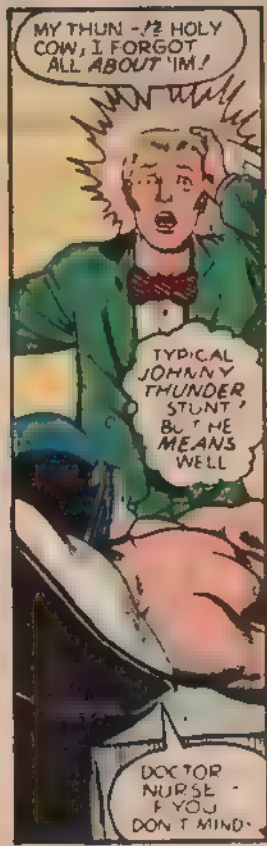
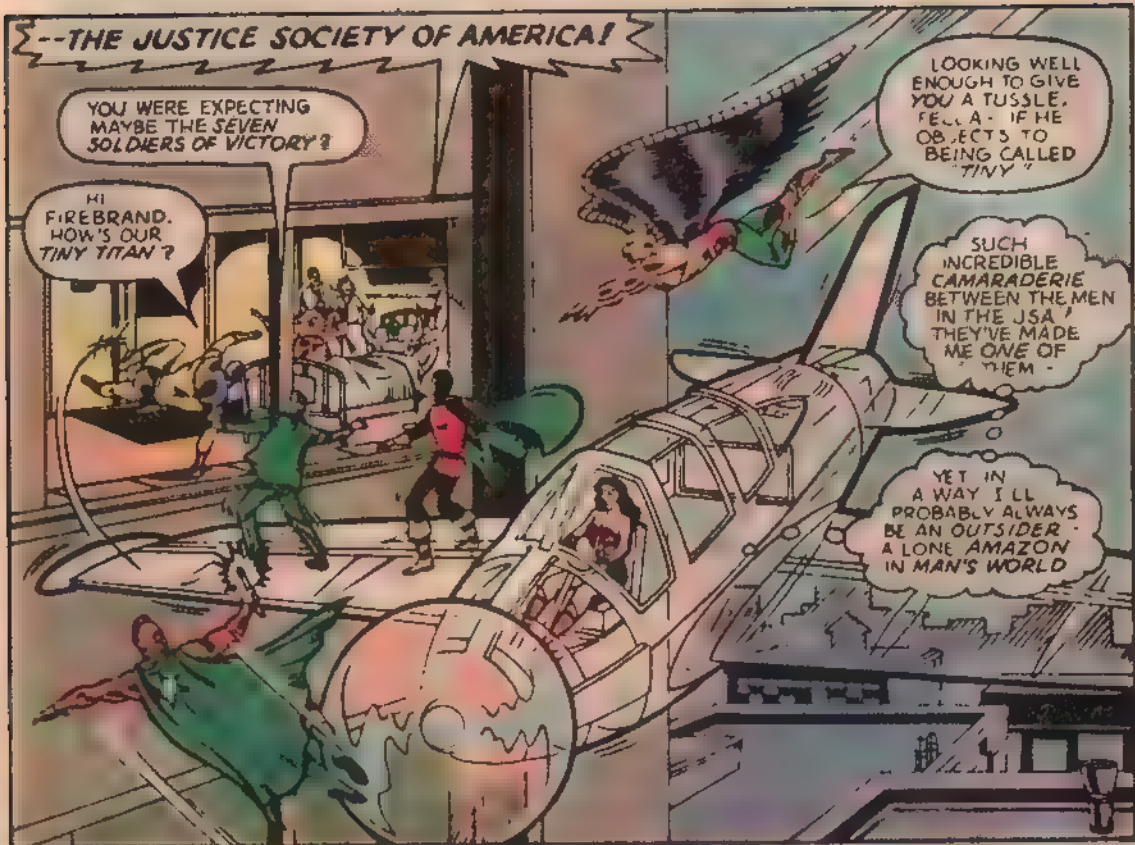
All applications subject to review. Columbia Video Game Club reserves the right to reject any application or cancel any membership.

_____ (please print) First Name Initial Last Name

City/State _____ Zip _____
Do you have a telephone? (check one) ☐ Yes ☐ No
Parent's Signature _____
if under 18 _____
Offer not available in APO, FPO, Alaska, Canada, Hawaii, Puerto Rico
WANT THIS CHARGED TO YOUR CREDIT CARD? Fill in information below. We'll charge the \$4.95 (or \$9.90) and future shipments to your credit card—and credit your account with any returns.
☐ American Express ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard

Interbank No _____
Credit Card No. (if full) _____ Expiration date _____
Signature _____ 101/103

Atari® and Video Computer System™ are trademarks of Atari, Inc. • DONKEY KONG® is the trademark of Nintendo of America, Inc. • 1981 Nintendo of America, Inc. Exclusive licensee—Coleco Industries, Inc. • GORF® is TM of Bally Midway Mfg. Co. • Copyright 1981, 1982 Bally Midway Mfg. Co. All Rights Reserved. • CARNIVAL® is a trademark of Sega Enterprises, Inc. • 1982 Sega Enterprises, Inc. • FROGGER® is a trademark of Sega Enterprises, Inc. • WIZARD OF WOR® is TM of Bally Midway Mfg. Co. • Copyright 1981, 1982 Bally Midway Mfg. Co. All Rights Reserved. • ZAXXON® is the trademark of Sega Enterprises, Inc. • 1982 Sega Enterprises, Inc.



HEY THAT'S ENOUGH ABOUT ME ALREADY, GUYS? WHAT ABOUT DOCTOR FATE?

HE WENT OFF TO LOOK FOR THE SPECTRE--AND HE'S GONE BACK TO BEING THE ALOOF CHARACTER HE USED TO BE, ONCE HE PUT ON THAT FULL HELMET AGAIN

HIS OLD HELMET? UH-OH!

SURELY, BOYS A MERE HELMET CAN'T MAKE THAT MUCH DIFFERENCE IN HIS PERSONALITY.

YOU DIDN'T KNOW FATE BEFORE, WONDER WOMAN, IT CAN--AND IT DOES.

HE'S A DIFFERENT PERSON--LITERALLY--WHEN HE WEARS THAT EARLIER HELMET, WHICH HE HASN'T DONE SINCE BEFORE YOU CAME TO AMERICA.

HE MUST'VE DONNED IT TO HELP HIM FIND THE MISSING SPECTRE--SINCE IT ALSO GIVES HIM THE MAGIC POWERS HE USED TO HAVE

THEN PERHAPS WE OUGHT TO LOCATE THEM BOTH--AND SINCE THE ATOM'S RECOVERING--

HEY--WHAT--?

HOLD STILL, PLEASE. WITH THIS BOOSTER APPARATUS, I MAY BE ABLE TO LOCATE DOCTOR FATE--WHEREVER HE IS.

IN THAT CASE, MI CASA ES SU CASA.

I THINK YOU MEAN "CABEZA," ATOM, BUT--

ALL RIGHT WONDER WOMAN, ALL HOOKED UP, JUST AS YOU INSTRUCTED.

YOU SEE, CHUM, WE TRIED TO USE THE MAGIC SPHERE BEFORE, TO TRACK DOWN EITHER SPECTRE OR FATE--

BUT IT WAS NO GO.

IT WAS AS IF--THEY'D BOTH VANISHED OFF THE FACE OF THE EARTH--AND KNOWING THOSE TWO--MAYBE THEY HAVE!

BUT HOW CAN YOU FIND 'EM THROUGH ME?

YOU WERE WITH DR. FATE LAST..

AND IF WE CAN ESTABLISH THAT CONNECTION, THEN PERHAPS--THERE!

THAT'S THE PERISPHERE IN THE FOREGROUND--AND YOUR POINT OF VIEW, ATOM.

AND THERE GOES FATE--WITH COMMANDER STEEL AND ANOTHER GUY STANDING AROUND.

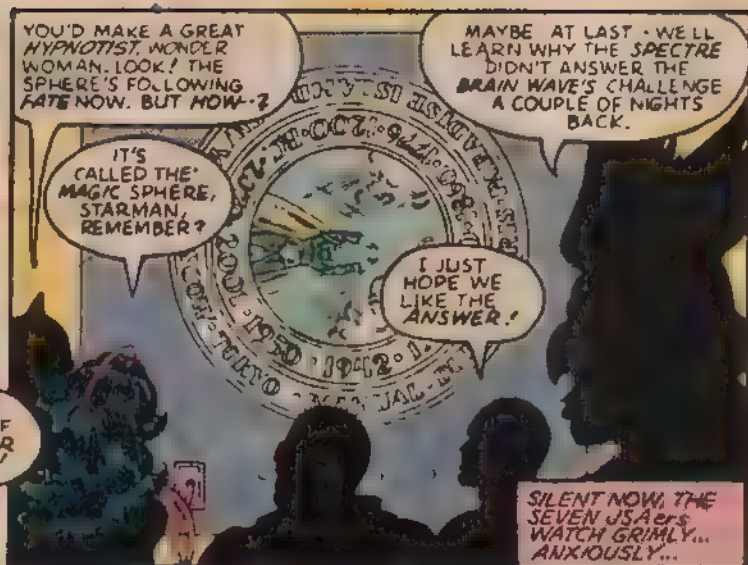
WHO'S THE BIRD IN THE SPIDER GET-UP, MIGHTY MITE?



THAT'S TARANTULA... NEW DUDDS... HE--

FORGET HIM FOR NOW, ATOM FORGET THEM ALL.

THINK ONLY OF DOCTOR FATE!



YOU'D MAKE A GREAT HYPNOTIST, WONDER WOMAN. LOOK! THE SPHERE'S FOLLOWING FATE NOW. BUT NOW--?

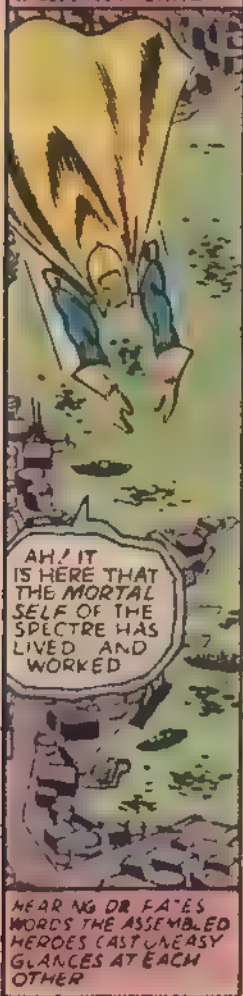
IT'S CALLED THE MAGIC SPHERE, STARMAN, REMEMBER?

I JUST HOPE WE LIKE THE ANSWER!

MAYBE AT LAST WE'LL LEARN WHY THE SPECTRE DIDN'T ANSWER THE BRAIN WAVE'S CHALLENGE A COUPLE OF NIGHTS BACK.

SILENT NOW, THE SEVEN JSAERS WATCH GRIMLY... ANXIOUSLY...

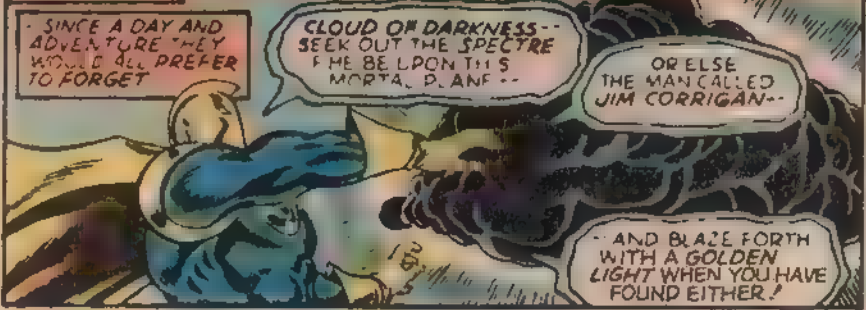
AS, IN MOMENTS KENT NELSON OR THE ENTITY WHICH WAS REPLACED HIM-- REACHES THE CITY CALLED CLIFFLAND!



AH! IT IS HERE THAT THE MORTAL SELF OF THE SPECTRE HAS LIVED AND WORKED

HEARING DR. FATE'S WORDS THE ASSEMBLED HEROES CAST UNEASY GLANCES AT EACH OTHER

FOR THIS IS AN EERIE VOICE-- A VOICE THEY HAVE NOT HEARD SINCE HALF A YEAR GONE--



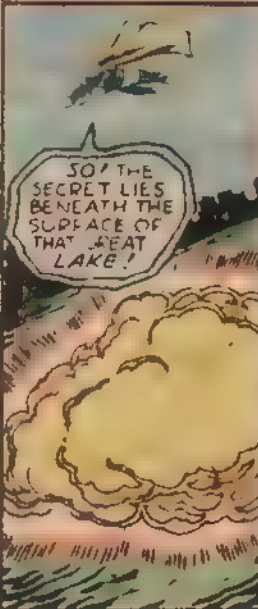
SINCE A DAY AND ADVENTURE THEY WOULD ALL PREFER TO FORGET

CLOUD OF DARKNESS-- SEEK OUT THE SPECTRE FHE BE LON TH S MORTAL PLANE--

OR ELSE THE MAN CALLED JIM CORRIGAN--

AND BLAZE FORTH WITH A GOLDEN LIGHT WHEN YOU HAVE FOUND EITHER!

SUCH IS THE MYSTIC POTENCY OF HABU'S GOLDEN HELMET-- EVEN AFTER IT HAS LAIN LONG UNUSED, THAT WITHIN SECONDS--



SO THE SECRET LIES BENEATH THE SURFACE OF THAT GREAT LAKE!

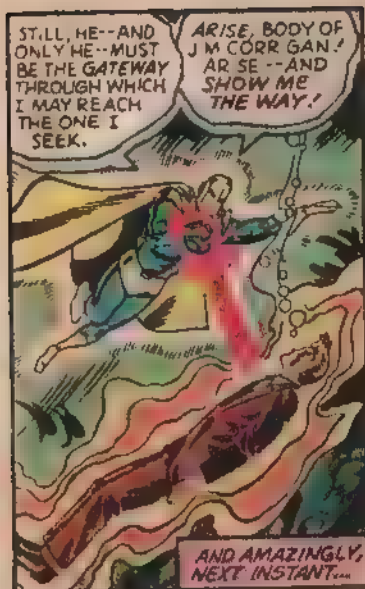


THEN NEITHER WAVE NOR WIZARDRY SHALL KEEP ME FROM LEARNING IT



AS I SUSPECTED! JIM CORRIGAN-- SURROUNDED BY A SPELL WHICH KEEPS HIM FROM HARM.

BUT I SENSE THAT THE SPECTRE DWELLS NOT WITHIN THAT MORTAL SHELL AT THIS MOMENT



STILL, HE--AND ONLY HE--MUST BE THE GATEWAY THROUGH WHICH I MAY REACH THE ONE I SEEK.

ARISE, BODY OF J M CORR GAN! AR SE--AND SHOW ME THE WAY!

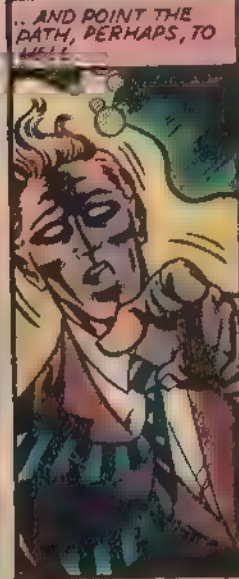
AND AMAZINGLY, NEXT INSTANT...



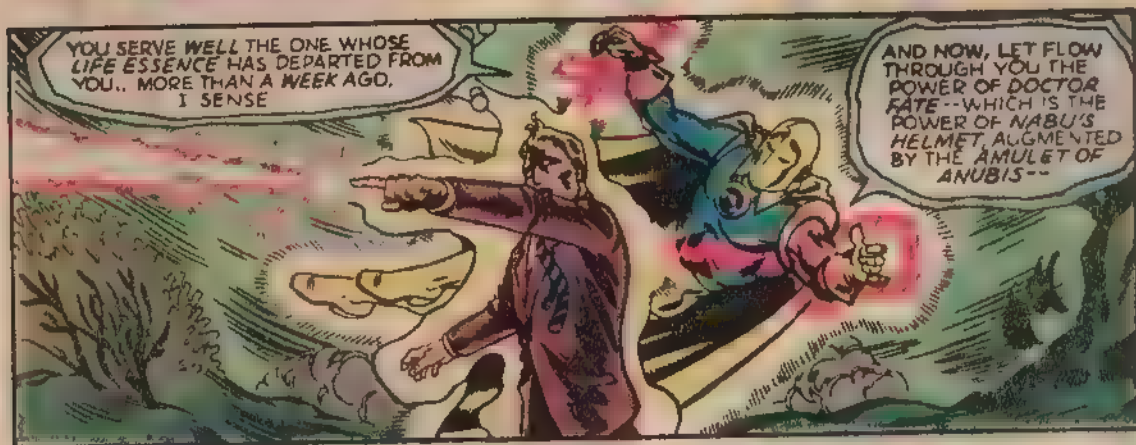
WHAT SEEMS A LIFELESS CORPSE RISES UP.



TO STARE WITH DEAD EYES WHICH YET SEE

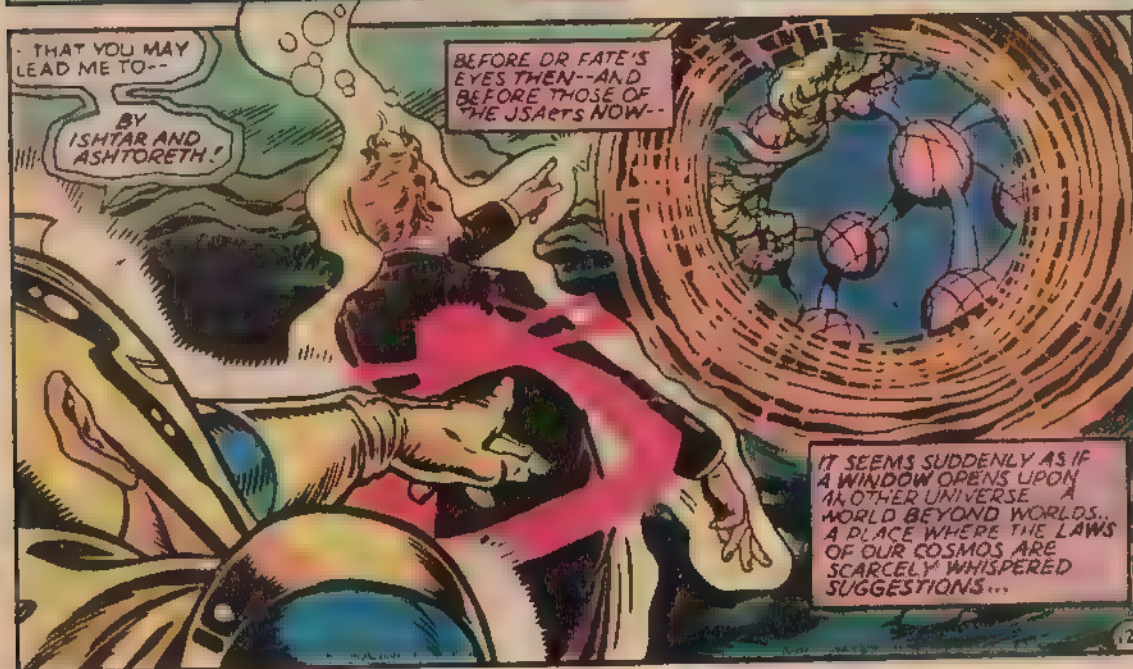


AND POINT THE PATH, PERHAPS, TO HELL



YOU SERVE WELL THE ONE WHOSE LIFE ESSENCE HAS DEPARTED FROM YOU.. MORE THAN A WEEK AGO, I SENSE

AND NOW, LET FLOW THROUGH YOU THE POWER OF DOCTOR FATE--WHICH IS THE POWER OF NABU'S HELMET, AUGMENTED BY THE AMULET OF ANUBIS--



THAT YOU MAY LEAD ME TO--

BY ISHTAR AND ASHTORETH!

BEFORE DR FATE'S EYES THEN--AND BEFORE THOSE OF THE JSARTS NOW--

IT SEEMS SUDDENLY AS IF A WINDOW OPENS UPON ANOTHER UNIVERSE A WORLD BEYOND WORLDS. A PLACE WHERE THE LAWS OF OUR COSMOS ARE SCARCELY WHISPERED SUGGESTIONS...

TOWARD WHICH
THE ENTRANCED
FIGURE OF
DOL CEMAN JIM
CORRIGAN NOW
POINTS A GRIM
FINGER!

EVEN WITH THE MYSTIC
MIGHT OF THE LORDS OF
ORDER FLOWING THROUGH
MY VEINS, IT MIGHT WELL
HAVE TAKEN ME DECADES
TO LOCATE THE SPECTRE
ON MY OWN.

NOW CORRIGAN
HIMSELF HAS DONE
THAT FOR ME, BY HIS
PSYCHIC CONNECTION
WITH HIS OWN EARTH
BOUND SPIRIT--

--AND I HAVE
BUT TO BRAVE
THE UNKNOWN!

YET I MUST
HURRY--FOR I SENSE
THAT CORRIGAN'S
BODY CANNOT
SURVIVE MUCH
LONGER WITHOUT
THE SPECTRE'S
ESSENCE.

AND IF HE BECOMES
IN TRUTH A CORPSE--
THE SPECTRE SHALL
ROAM THE COSMIC
CORRIDORS FOREVER--
A WIDELY PHANTOM?

BY LUR OF THE
CHALDEES, I ENCOUNTER
BARRIER AFTER BARRIER--
AS IF SOME ALIEN FORCE
HAD ERECTED SORCEROUS
SHIELDS TO KEEP ME
FROM REACHING MY GOAL!

MUST BREAK
THROUGH ALL OF
THEM QUL CH. V--
IF I WOULD REACH
THE GHOSTLY
GLADD AN IN
TIME!

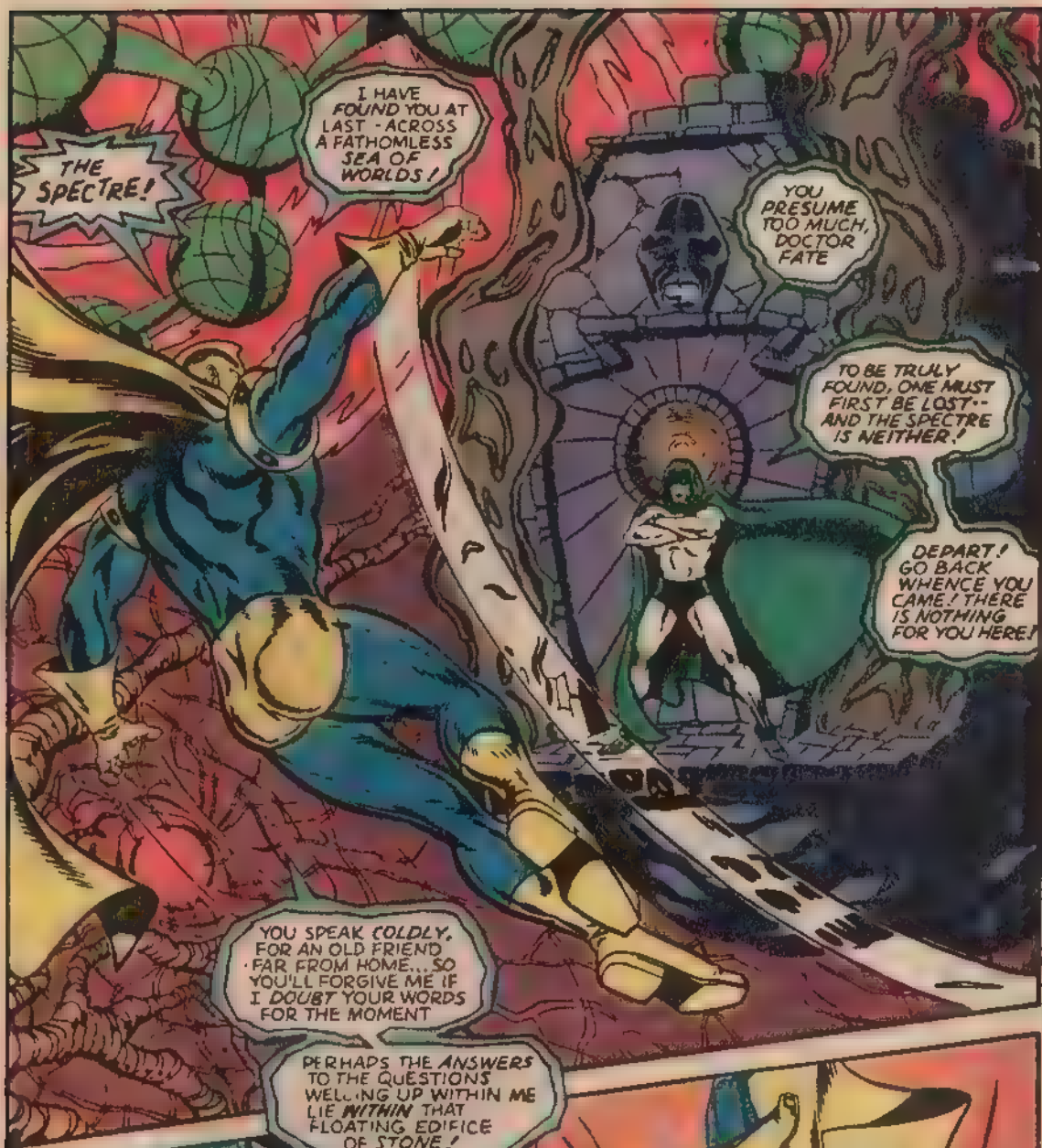
AH--IT IS DONE!
THE FINAL BARRIER
GIVES WAY BEFORE
ME!

NOW LET US
SEE WHERE--

BLESSED
ORNARD!

YET IT WOULD HAVE BEEN
FATAL TO KENT NELSON,
EVEN WITH THE GREAT
POWERS REMAINING
TO HIM.

--IF NOT FOR
THE HELMET
OF NABU!



THE
SPECTRE!

I HAVE
FOUND YOU AT
LAST - ACROSS
A FATHOMLESS
SEA OF
WORLDS!

YOU
PRESUME
TOO MUCH,
DOCTOR
FATE

TO BE TRULY
FOUND, ONE MUST
FIRST BE LOST--
AND THE SPECTRE
IS NEITHER!

DEPART!
GO BACK
WHENCE YOU
CAME! THERE
IS NOTHING
FOR YOU HERE!

YOU SPEAK COLDLY,
FOR AN OLD FRIEND
FAR FROM HOME... SO
YOU'LL FORGIVE ME IF
I DOUBT YOUR WORDS
FOR THE MOMENT

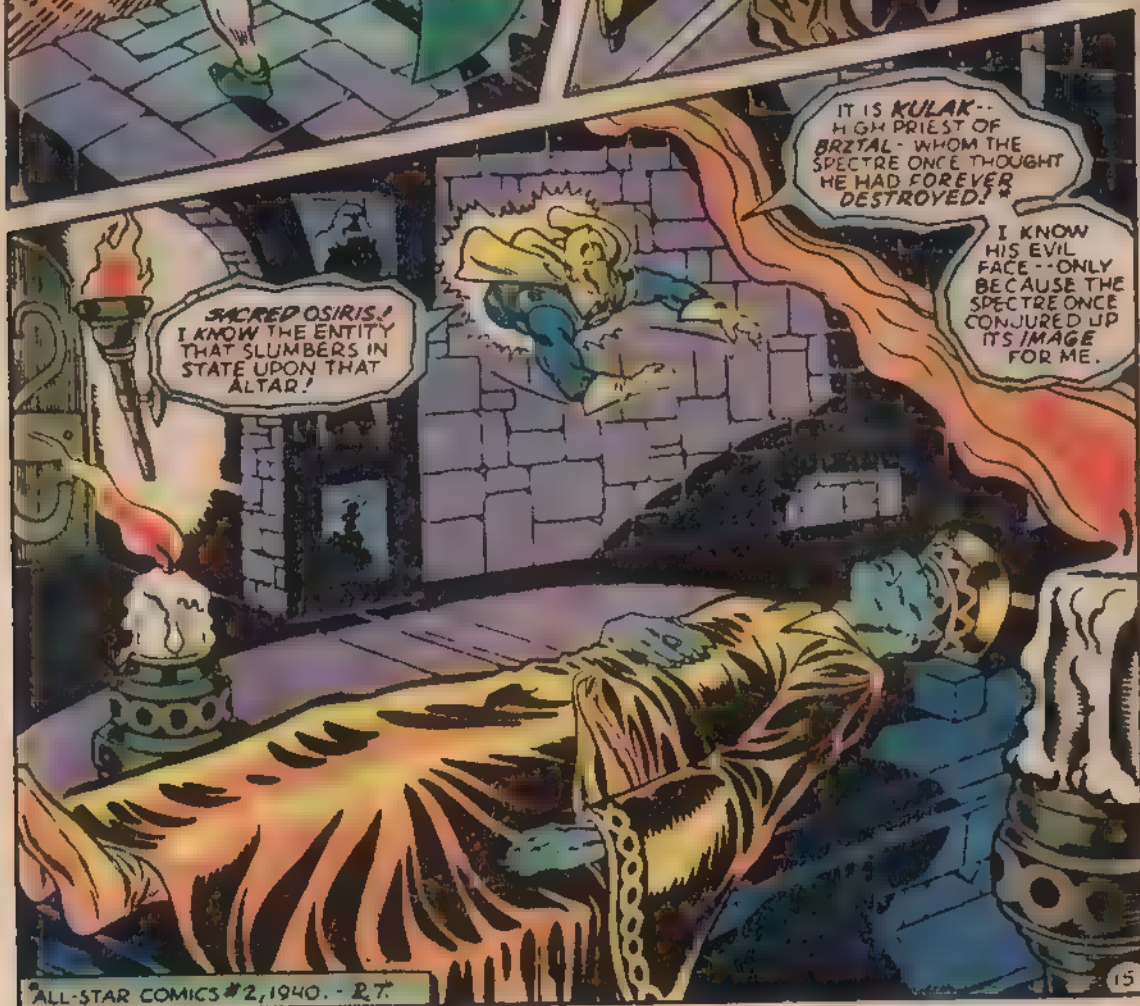
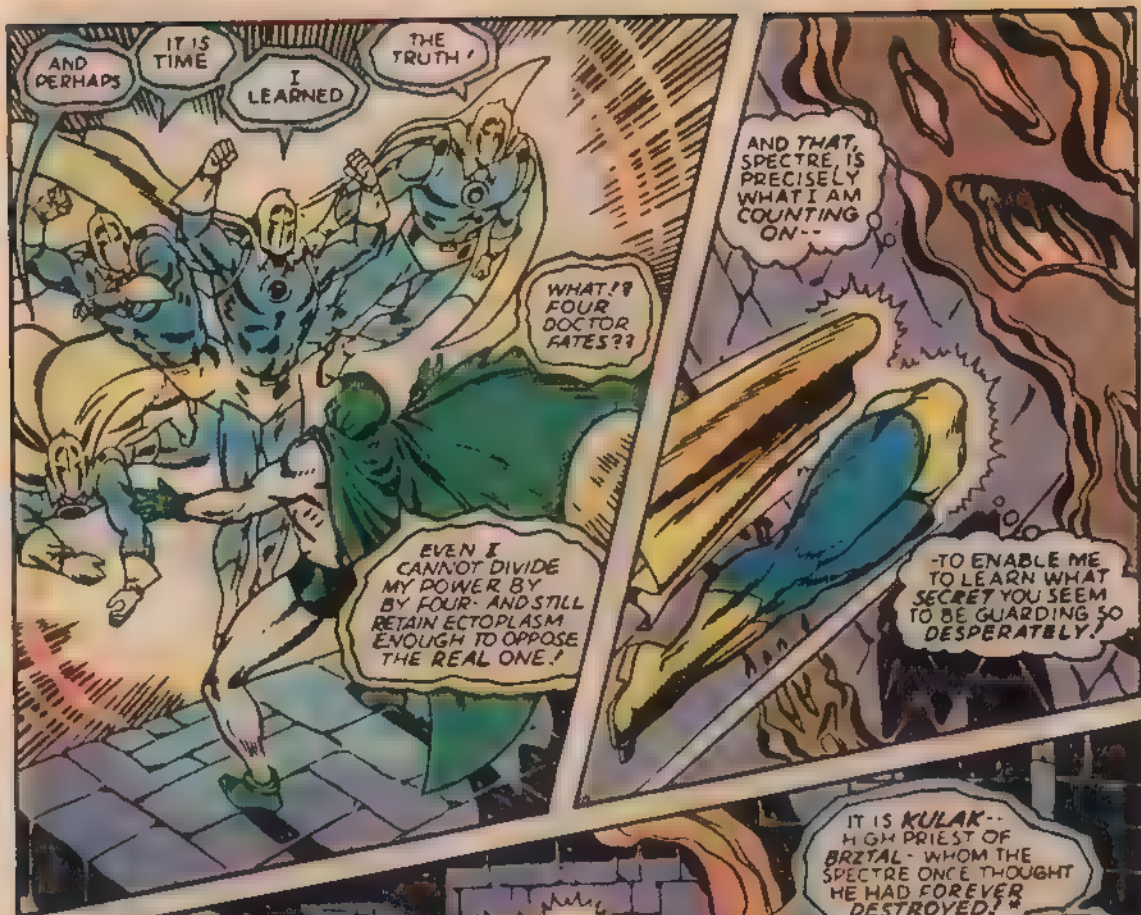
PERHAPS THE ANSWERS
TO THE QUESTIONS
WELLING UP WITHIN ME
LIE *WITHIN* THAT
FLOATING EDIFICE
OF STONE!

STAY
YOU BACK,
MORTAL!

DO NOT
FORCE ME TO
RAISE MY HAND
AGAINST YOU
IN DEADLY
EARNEST!

YOU'VE
STOPPED ME--
WITH A MERE
GESTURE!?
NOT EVEN
NABU HIMSELF
EVER FACED
SUCH MYSTIC
MIGHT.

I'VE LONG
WONDERED, GHOST,
WHICH OF US TWO
WAS THE GREATER
MAGE...



I THOUGHT HIM DISINTEGRATED
FOR ALL TIME--HIS ESSENCE
SCATTERED TO THE MYRIAD
CORNERS OF THE MULTIVERSE--
BUT HE LIVES!

AYE, LIVES--AND
THOUGH IT SEEMS HE
SLEEPS, STILL I SENSE
BOUNDLESS WAVES
OF MALEVOLENCE
EMANATING FROM
HIM--WASHING
OVER ME!

PERHAPS I
MAY PROBE HIS
MIND--LEARN
FROM HIM THE
REASON WHY
THE SPECTRE
NOW GUARDS
HIM IN
SINISTER
REPOSE.

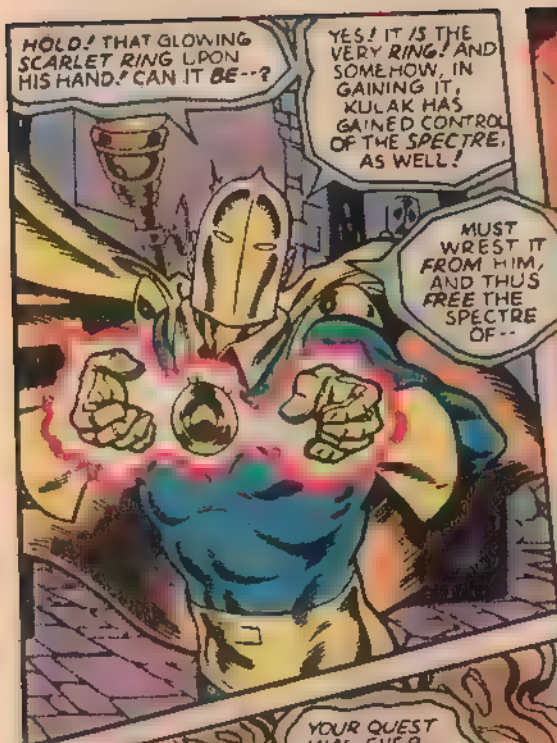
NO! IT'S ALMOST MORE
THAN I CAN BEAR! A PICTURE
OF DEATH--OF DOOM--OF
DESPAIR WITHOUT ENDING!

BEHIND HIS THIRD EYE, CLOSED
LIKE THE OTHERS--I SENSE THE
GRIM DESTINIES OF COUNTLESS
WORLDS, OVER UNNUMBERED EONS--

--BROTHER
TURNED
AGAINST
BROTHER--
MAN AGAINST
WIFE--BY
HIS
SPELLS OF
HATRED--

--DESPISING
EACH OTHER--
LOATHING
THEIR FELLOW
BEINGS, TILL
THEY TEAR
APART THE VERY
CIVILIZATIONS
WHICH BIRTHED
THEM--

--A MULTITUDE
OF CULTURES, ALL
DESTROYED--UNTIL
THE DAY THE
SPECTRE FIRST
BATTLED KULAK,
AND OBLITERATED
HIM--WITH THE AID
OF THE RING OF
LIFE!



HOLD! THAT GLOWING
SCARLET RING UPON
HIS HAND, CAN IT BE--?

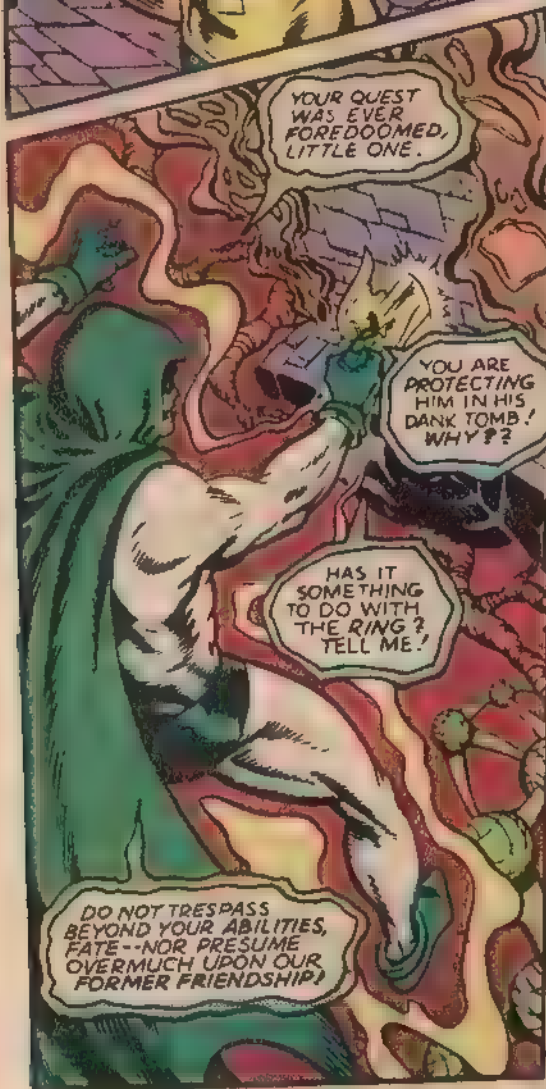
YES! IT IS THE
VERY RING! AND
SOMEHOW, IN
GAINING IT,
KULAK HAS
GAINED CONTROL
OF THE SPECTRE,
AS WELL!

MUST
WREST IT
FROM HIM,
AND THUS
FREE THE
SPECTRE
OF--



AND IF I HAVE
NO WISH TO BE
"FREE"--?

UNNNH!
WAITED--
AN INSTANT
TOO LONG!



YOUR QUEST
WAS EVER
FOREDOOMED,
LITTLE ONE.

YOU ARE
PROTECTING
HIM IN HIS
DANK TOMB!
WHY??

HAS IT
SOMETHING
TO DO WITH
THE RING?
TELL ME!

DO NOT TRESPASS
BEYOND YOUR ABILITIES,
FATE--NOR PRESUME
OVERMUCH UPON OUR
FORMER FRIENDSHIP!



IN THE WORLD OF MERE MEN
YOU ARE FEARED-- BUT HERE
YOU ARE ONLY ONE MORE WORM
TO BE TRAMPLED UNDERFOOT--
OR SQUASHED BY A FAR MIGHTIER
HAND!

SWEAR TO DEPART
AND NEVER RETURN--
AND I SHALL RELEASE
YOU! ELSE--

NEVER!



GRIT

It's fun ...
It's easy!
GRIT will
assist you
in every way
in this
happy, rewarding
adventure.

See what you receive here and
go to the 10 nearest stores to
see a copy of the magazine.
AL DE LA MA
SA NJ NY
NC FL RI
and more

Papers sent only in the Continental U.S.

SPENDING MONEY!

Here's your chance to start
a business of your very own!

Extra spending money ...
Great prizes ... practical
business experience.
For all details mail coupon
TODAY — HURRY

GRIT PUBLISHING CO., Williamsport, PA 17701

Please send me all the details and _____ copies
Each week to start my own GRIT route.

(PRINT

Name

In Care of

Address

Town

State

Zip

Age

Date of Birth

Month

Day

Year

☐ Male

Please Print Your Last Name Plainly Below

☐ Female

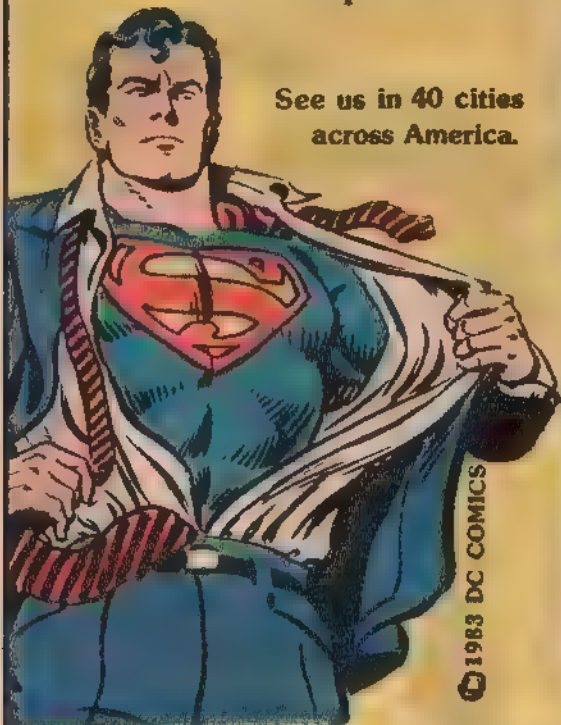
Signature of Parent
or Guardian

NC93

Multi-media's convention double-header

Sept. 10 & 11

See us in 40 cities
across America.



BOSTON (formerly New Con
Park Plaza Convention)

DICK GIORDANO
MARSHALL ROGERS
LEN WEIN
WALTER KOENIG
(Star Trek's Chekov)

Mr. Koenig and Mr. Doohan will switch
cities for Sunday's show.
See both celebrities at either convention.

ALBANY

(formerly FANTA-CON
Albany Convention)

BERNI WRIGHTSON
JEFF JONES
JAMES DOOHAN
(Star Trek's Spock)

Multi Media Conventions, P.O. Box 67 Sewell, N.J. 08080

FOR INFORMATION ON EVENTS IN YOUR AREA CALL: 800-225-0088

SGT. ROCK

**IS ON THE MOVE
IN 83!**



**NEW FROM
REMCO**

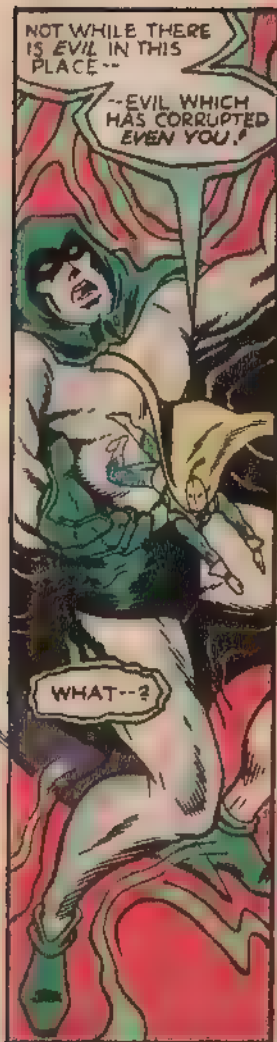
**SGT. ROCK,
TOUGH ACTION SOLDIER!
COMBAT READY
WITH WEAPON & GEAR!
FULLY POSABLE!**

PLUS:
FREE
Iron-on
**MILITARY
PATCH!**
Collect 'em all!



**AVAILABLE
AT YOUR FAVORITE TOY STORE**

TM indicates Trademark of DC Comics Inc. © 1982



NOT WHILE THERE IS EVIL IN THIS PLACE--

--EVIL WHICH HAS CORRUPTED EVEN YOU!

WHAT--?



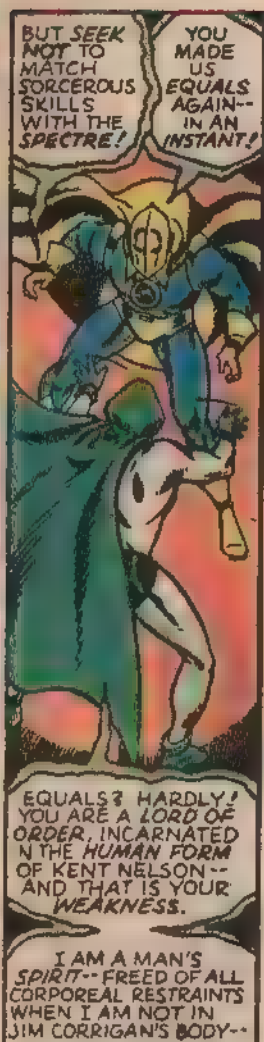
TELL ME, SPECTRE! TELL ME IF YOU ARE UNDER KULAK'S SWAY--

--OR IF YOU GUARD HIS UNHOLY TOMB OF YOUR OWN FREE WILL!



TELL ME!

YOU ARE FAR MORE POWERFUL THAN EVER I IMAGINED, FATE-- FOR NEVER BEFORE HAVE WE MET AS FOEMEN--

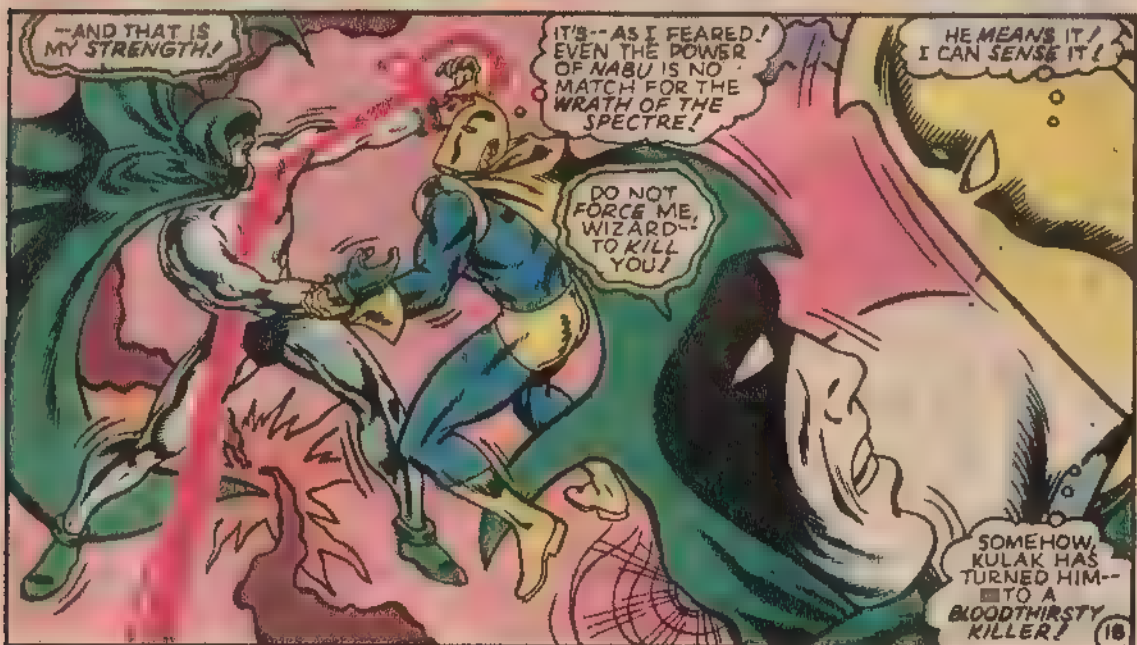


BUT SEEK NOT TO MATCH SORCEROUS SKILLS WITH THE SPECTRE!

YOU MADE US EQUALS AGAIN-- IN AN INSTANT!

EQUALS? HARDLY! YOU ARE A LORD OF ORDER, INCARNATED IN THE HUMAN FORM OF KENT NELSON-- AND THAT IS YOUR WEAKNESS.

I AM A MAN'S SPIRIT-- FREED OF ALL CORPOREAL RESTRAINTS WHEN I AM NOT IN JIM CORRIGAN'S BODY--



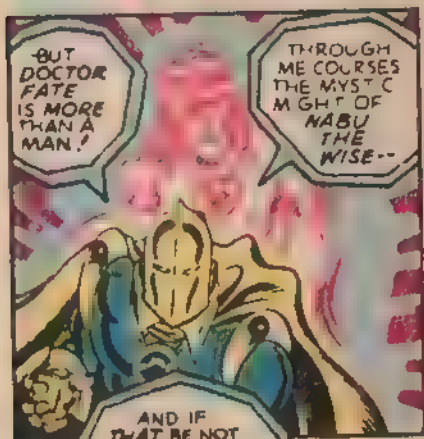
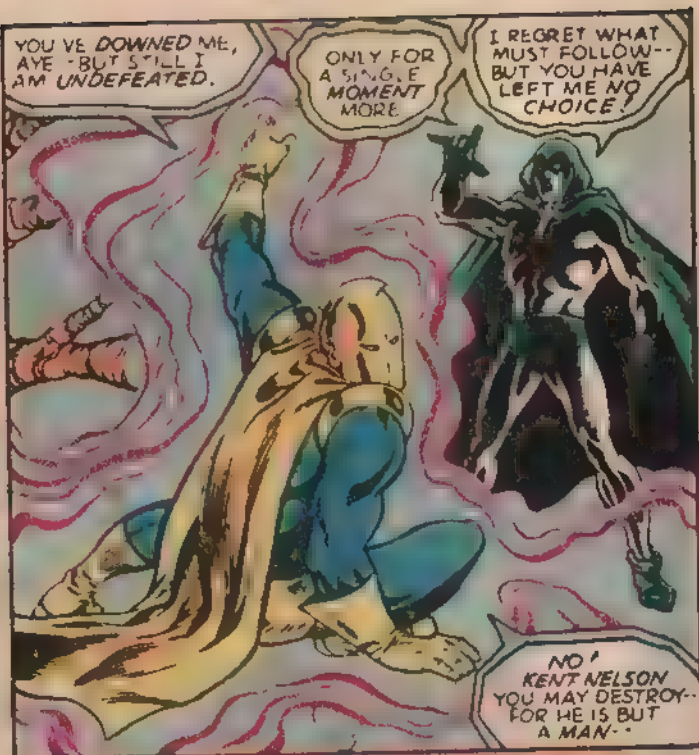
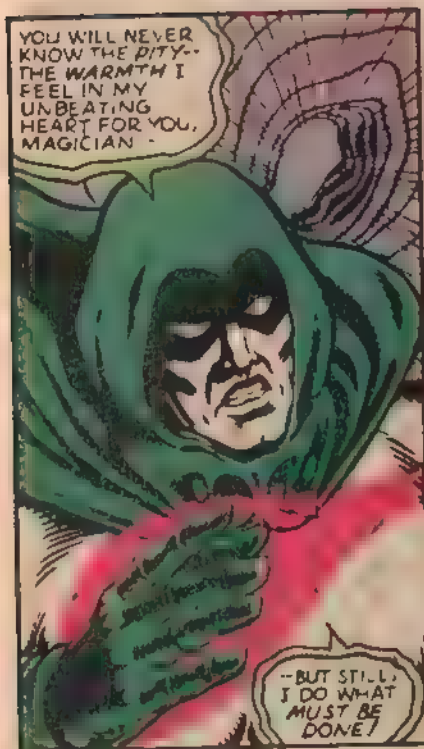
--AND THAT IS MY STRENGTH!

IT'S-- AS I FEARED! EVEN THE POWER OF NABU IS NO MATCH FOR THE WRATH OF THE SPECTRE!

DO NOT FORCE ME, WIZARD-- TO KILL YOU!

HE MEANS IT! I CAN SENSE IT!

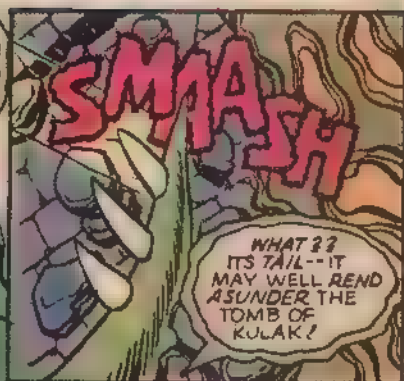
SOMEHOW, KULAK HAS TURNED HIM-- TO A BLOODTHIRSTY KILLER!





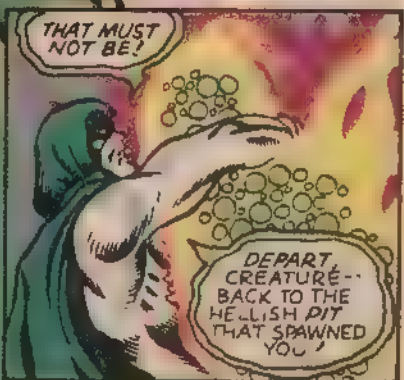
TRULY, I WOULD HAVE
THOUGHT THIS BENEATH
ONE OF YOUR
SORCEROUS
STATURE,
FATE--

--CALLING FORTH
A MONSTER
FROM THE VOID
TO DO WHAT YOU
YOURSELF COULD
NOT!



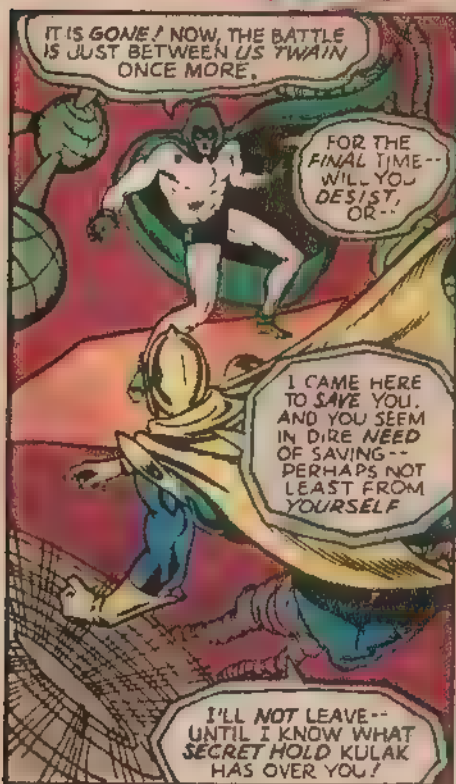
SMASH

WHAT??
ITS TAIL--IT
MAY WELL REND
ASUNDER THE
TOMB OF
KULAK!



THAT MUST
NOT BE!

DEPART
CREATURE--
BACK TO THE
HELLISH PIT
THAT SPAWNED
YOU!



IT IS GONE! NOW, THE BATTLE
IS JUST BETWEEN US TWAIN
ONCE MORE.

FOR THE
FINAL TIME--
WILL YOU
DESIST,
OR--

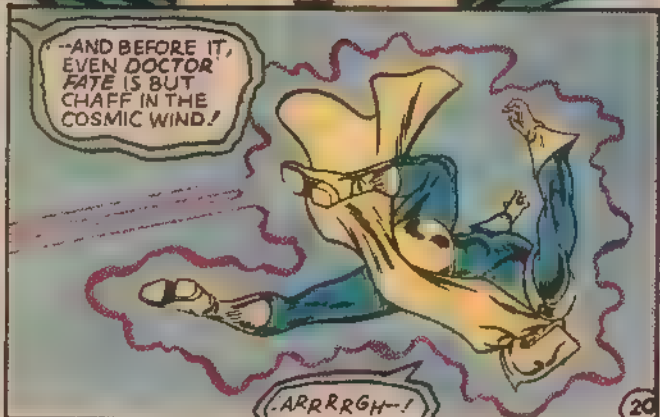
I CAME HERE
TO SAVE YOU.
AND YOU SEEM
IN DIRE NEED
OF SAVING--
PERHAPS NOT
LEAST FROM
YOURSELF

I'LL NOT LEAVE--
UNTIL I KNOW WHAT
SECRET HOLD KULAK
HAS OVER YOU!



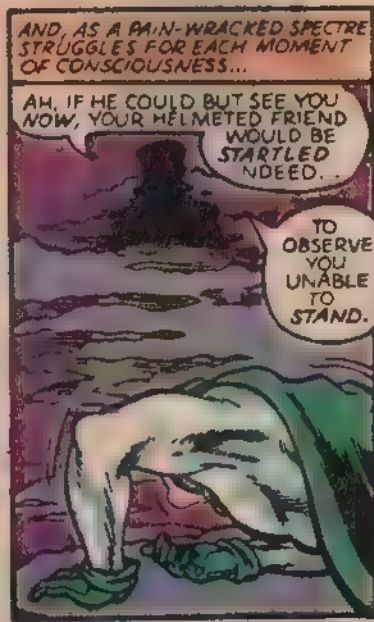
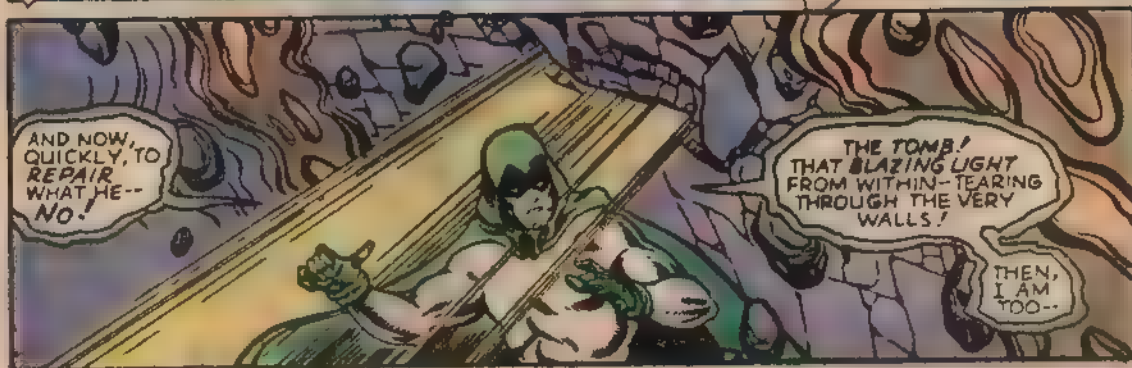
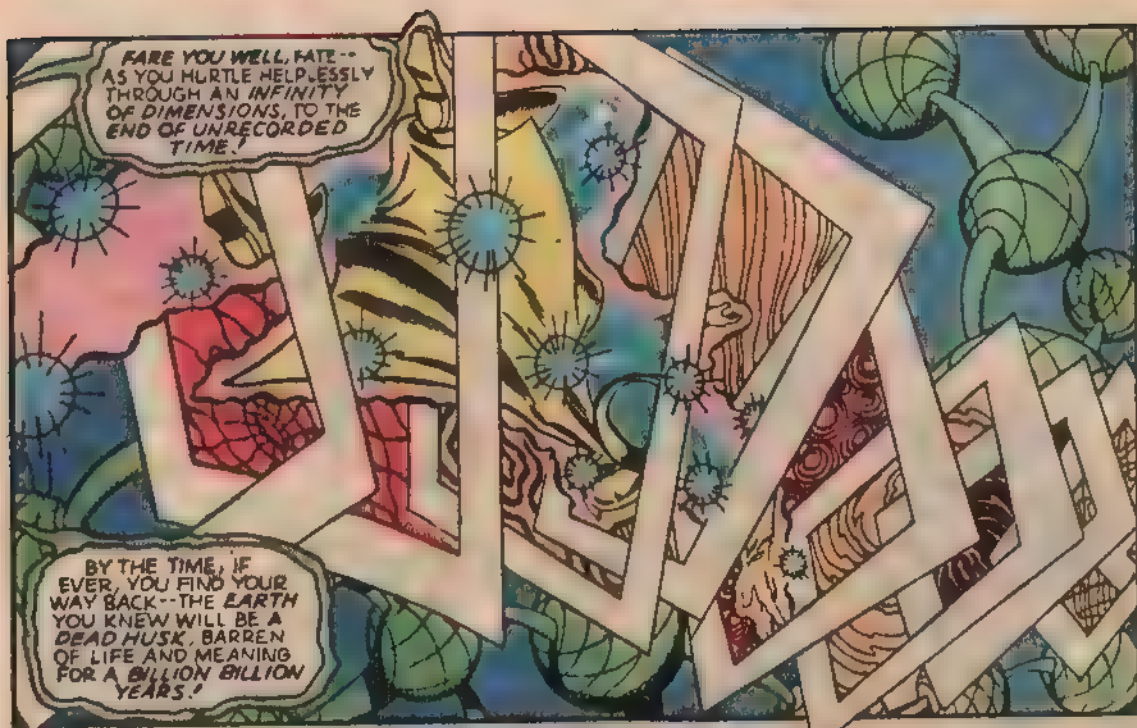
SO BE
IT!

MY GAZE
WOULD BRING
A NORMAL
MORTAL DEATH--
INSTANTANEOUS,
CERTAIN, AND
AGONIZING--



--AND BEFORE IT,
EVEN DOCTOR
FATE IS BUT
CHAFF IN THE
COSMIC WIND!

ARRRRGH--!



WRITE RIGHT NOW!

Write advertiser direct for information.
For advertising rates write S. Schwarz & Co.
355 LEXINGTON AVE N.Y. 10017

COMIC BOOKS

FOR SALE

250,000 in stock, complete Marvel & DC Groups from 1935-1983. Also TV Guides, James Bond, L.N.C., E. Doc, Savage Mags, Dark Shadows, T.V. Avengers, Disney Movie Items, etc. From 1900-1983. We Buy **GIANT CATALOG 95c**

HOWARD D. ROGOFSKY
P.O. Box 1102, Rushing, N.Y. 11354

POEMS SET TO MUSIC

Let our staff of professional songwriters turn your words into a song. Send your best poems for prompt consideration. **FREE EXAMINATION**. Songs recorded - photograph records made. **NASHVILLE MUSIC PRODUCTIONS**
Box 40061, Studio 16, Nash., Va. 37204

COLLECTORS' Problems Finding That Special Comic? We have Thousands Of Comics Competitively Priced. For List Send 75c (Refundable With 1st Order) To **K&R COMICS** 1388 Thomas Place, Dubuque, Iowa 52001

Ugly Blackheads - Out in Seconds

VACUTEX
Keep your complexion free of blackheads. Look more attractive instantly. Scientifically designed vacuum pump gently lifts out blackheads safely. No pinching or squeezing. Ten day return privilege. Rush \$3.50 plus 75c postg. & hdlg. to **Balco Products, Inc.** 191 Main St. Dept. D-1 Westport, CT 06881

Thousands of Marvels & DCs
For catalog send 50c to:

CONTO COMICS
122 E. 42 St. New York, NY 10168
A division of Contermid Inc.

Write advertiser direct
for information.

For advertising rates write
SANFORD SCHWARZ & CO
355 LEXINGTON AVENUE
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10017

KOLOR CUT/STICK-ON'S

Unique Stick On's that will turn up your notebook, wall, mirror, lunch pail or? Color them out from out. **8" WIDE**
THEY WILL STICK TO JUST ABOUT ANYTHING!

ALL 4 FOR \$1.75 PLUS 25¢ POSTAGE

OR SEND FOR OVER 85 DESIGNS YOU CAN CHOOSE FROM (ENCLOSE 25¢ FOR POSTAGE)

SEND NOW!
WILSON ART
P.O. Box 141012
Spokane, WA 99214

KIDS! BUILD YOUR OWN FLYING SAUCER!

Send now for Detailed Instructions on how to build your U.F.O.
Really Flies! Easy to build
Send \$3.00 to: **P.S. Burroff,**
Box 42302, The Colony, Tx. 75056

COMIC BOOKS FOR SALE

1940 to 1978
over 100,000 in stock
50c for complete list
Robert Bell, Box 8326
Coral Springs, Fla. 33065

SPACE SHUTTLE PHOTOS

2-8x10 Glossy Hi-Tech Laser Photos taken by NASA of the Space Shuttle Columbia
DESTINED TO BE COLLECTOR'S ITEMS

Order now while supplies last! Satisfaction guaranteed! Send \$5.00 to:

WALDO
319 Outhouse
Pawtucket, R.I. 02861

MUSCLES? In 7 Days

DYNAMIC TENSION starts giving results you can feel and your friends will notice. Big, useful muscles. Gain weight, if needed. Lose fat belly. Send name and address for 32 page book—**FREE**. **CHARLES ATLAS**, 49 West 23rd St., New York, N.Y. 10010 Dept. E81



HIGH SCHOOL

The American School has been helping adults **FINISH HIGH SCHOOL AT HOME** in sparetime, by correspondence for almost 80 years. **DIPLOMA AWARDED**. . . see if we can help you. **American School, Dept. 20910**
850 East 58th St. Chicago, IL 60637

Name _____
Address _____
City/State _____
Phone _____
--- NO FINANCE CHARGES ---

GOLDEN STATE COMICS

Send 2¢ for comics selling list and FREE protective comic bag
4688 Boundary San Diego, CA 92116
or visit our store

FINALLY!

A NO GIMMICK, HONEST APPROACH TO WEIGHT TRAINING JUST FOR TEENS. A PROVEN PROGRAM WITH MONEY BACK GUARANTEE. GET THE BENEFITS OF THIS UNIQUE PROGRAM CREATED AND DESIGNED FOR THE O.U.C.K. LONG LASTING DEVELOPMENT OF MUSCLE MASS. A TEENAGE PHYSIQUE FOR MORE INFO SEND 25¢ with self addressed STAMPED ENVELOPE TO **T. MACINTOSH P.O. BOX 7** UTICA, N.Y. 14807

3 MIL COMIC BAGS

\$4.00 per 100 bags

Includes 24¢ for postage

EMPIRE COMICS

572 Stone Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14616

USED VIDEO GAME CARTRIDGES

SAVINGS UP TO 75%
WE BUY & SELL

SEND SELF ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE FOR OUR FREE PRICE LIST
SHOW & TELL VIDEO, GARDINER MANOR MALL, DEPT 97, 834 SUNRISE HIGHWAY, BAYSHORE, N.Y. 11706

Dynamic Health

BODYBUILDING COURSE

You'll be amazed at how easily you can build **BIG POWERFUL MUSCLES**. We'll send you everything you need for only \$8.00.

Complete easy to understand course is **fully guaranteed** or your money will be immediately refunded.

Three fully illustrated books. Handout lessons included.

Send today for quick reply
PENDULUM PRODUCTS
Dept. PCO-2 Box 245
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11214

Bill Cosby says:

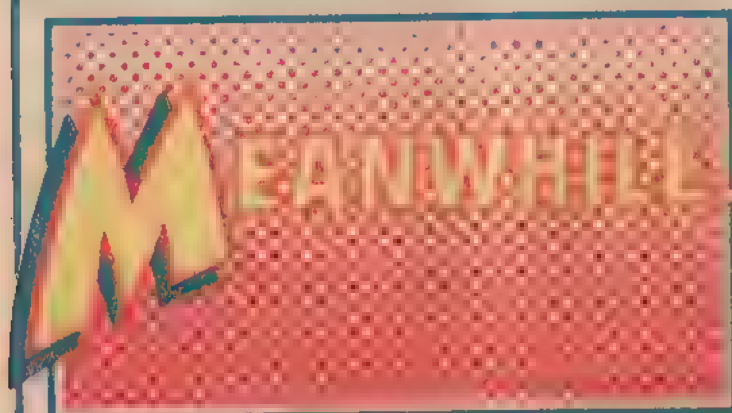
"If you can't send you, send money."



American Red Cross

WRITE RIGHT NOW!

Write advertiser direct for information.
For advertising rates write S. Schwarz & Co.
355 LEXINGTON AVE N.Y. 10017



"I have a vision.

A vision of comic being all that they can be..."

These are the opening lines of a speech I delivered at eight or ten major conventions during 1982. The lines were intended to segue into the major thrust of the address; that the comic industry's need for new talent would prevent my vision from ever becoming a reality unless a program was initiated by the major publishers to encourage the entry of new talent into the field.

But my speech never clearly delineated my vision, its origins, or its development and I'd like to do that now.

So I will.



I can't remember exactly how old I was I was in bed I was sickly as a child and spent lots of time in bed. Since I am an only child and my father worked and my mother had her chores, I spent a good many hours finding ways to occupy myself. My parents, bless 'em, knew how difficult it was for me and did everything they could to keep me comfortable. My father brought something home for me each night, something to help me while away the lonesome hours. This particular night he brought home a comic book. Famous Funnies to be exact... my first comic book ever. "Here you are, Dickie. Now you can read the funnies every day, not just on Sunday." I picked up the magazine he'd tossed on the bed, flipped through the pages, mesmerized and I haven't been the same since!

I can't tell you why those early comics affected me the way they did, but I was hooked and immediately became an avid reader. Soon I was writing and drawing my own comics, (sometimes on brown paper bags that my mother brought groceries home in) to pass the time between issues of my favorites. I remember, in particular, drawing "The Little King", a popular Sunday comic strip of the time, and my parents beaming proudly at my "talent". I really didn't need

much encouragement. I'd made up my mind that reading or drawing comics was fun and I would do both for as long as I could. Perhaps for the rest of my life. I was then seven years old.



Jump ahead five/six years. I'm in elementary school now, not so sickly anymore, lots of friends, getting into sports: baseball! mostly. Still an avid reader (Batman wipes me out. Can't wait for the next issue... especially if the Joker is the villain), still drawing my own comics, which now tend to be adaptations of stories from the pulp magazines of the time, mostly sport stories. Each day when school ends, I buy a package of Drakes' cupcakes (3 to a package), trudge home and with a glass of milk, the radio turned on to Captain Midnight or Jack Armstrong, I spend the time waiting for my parents to come home from work reading my latest stack of comics. A major event in my life at that time was discovering that a classmate of mine, Pat Bove, shared my unbridled enthusiasm for reading comics (though he didn't draw them), bought his comics at a mysterious "other" store, seemed to be able to produce huge stacks of them, seemingly at will and they were almost all titles that I couldn't get at my store and we started trading. Now I could read two or three comics for every one I bought. Bliss! Thank you, Pat Bove, wherever you are!



Graduated elementary school having already made a career choice. A vocational high school in the New York City system, The School of Industrial Art, offered courses in cartooning as well as all the other commercial arts. It also required its students to take all the necessary academic subjects needed to enter college, so my school day was quite long and there was a 45 minute subway ride in either direction to make the day longer. I think this is where my 4 A.M. rising time started. I worked

hard. I loved it. I learned my craft (Talent is a good start, but you do need training!)

My high school years and my first year of working were uneventful, in the main. But the early fifties saw the emergence of EC Comics, and a new standard was set. I was knocked out of my socks by those comics. Here were stories that were literate, exciting, revolved around themes or messages that readers could relate to. They were well illustrated, beautifully colored, and, in my mind, all other comics paled by comparison. More than all this, you could feel that the creative people cared about their material, the editors (comic giants, Al Feldstein and Harvey Kurtzman) put their individual stamps on the books that they edited and publisher Bill Gaines supplied his support, direction and whatever else was needed to make it happen. The end result was a stunning line of comics that were fun to read and demanded that you care about them and their creators, who were given great visibility by the publisher and the editors.

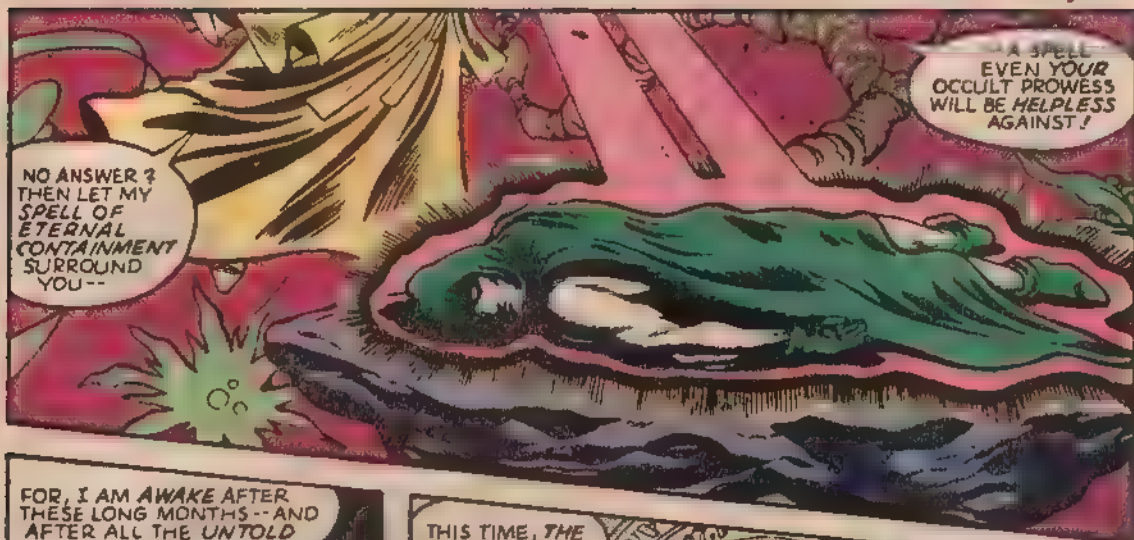


This early vision of what comics can be still fires me today. I don't mean that I intend to copy EC Comics... Today's tastes have changed... but I do want to publish a line of DC Comics that will have the same overwhelming level of creative energy, that will have people working together who care about their material, each other, their reader and comics in general. Creators who work toward a common goal for love of the work and a desire to entertain and please an audience... as well as themselves... creators who feel that they can make such a total commitment and not feel "it's just a job" to produce a line of comics that make a special statement... their statement. In short, a line of comics I can read to recapture the excitement of a time, not too long ago, when comics were all they could be.



Maybe it won't happen this year... maybe it won't happen in the next five years... maybe it won't happen ever! But it won't be because I haven't tried. You see, I have a vision. Thank you and Good Afternoon.

Dick



NO ANSWER?
THEN LET MY
SPELL OF
ETERNAL
CONTAINMENT
SURROUND
YOU--

A SPELL
EVEN YOUR
OCULT PROWESS
WILL BE HELPLESS
AGAINST!

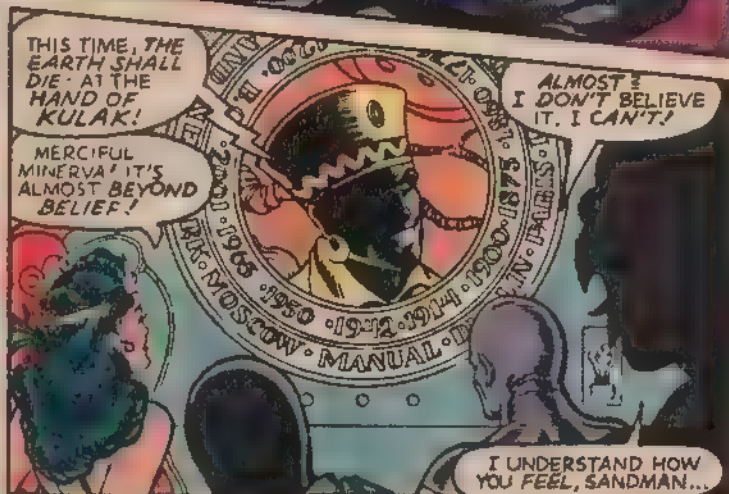


FOR, I AM AWAKE AFTER
THESE LONG MONTHS--AND
AFTER ALL THE UNTOLD
MILLENNIA.

IN DAYS OF
OLD, I DID VOW
THAT I WOULD
USE MY POWERS
TO DESTROY ANY
CIVILIZATION
WHICH DARED
PROFANE MY
ANCIENT
TOMB!

TWICE NOW,
BEINGS OF THE SAME
PLANET
HAVE DONE
SO--THE
FIRST TIME,
SAVED BY YOUR
EFFORTS

THIS TIME,
THERE SHALL BE
NO REPRIEVE FOR
THAT SPINNING
BALL OF LIFE LADEN
MUD YOU CALL
THE EARTH!

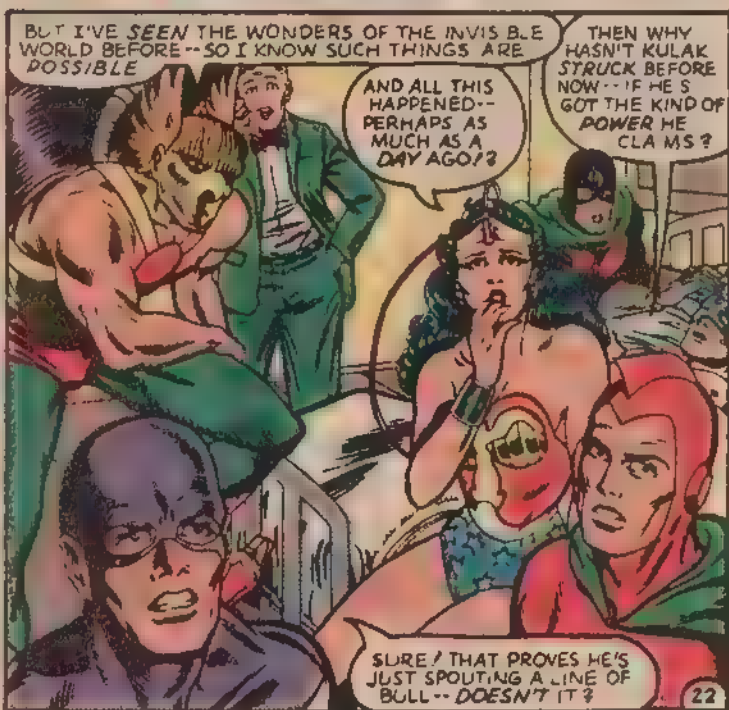


THIS TIME, THE
EARTH SHALL
DIE--AT THE
HAND OF
KULAK!

MERCIFUL
MINERVA! IT'S
ALMOST BEYOND
BELIEF!

ALMOST!
I DON'T BELIEVE
IT. I CAN'T!

I UNDERSTAND HOW
YOU FEEL, SANDMAN...

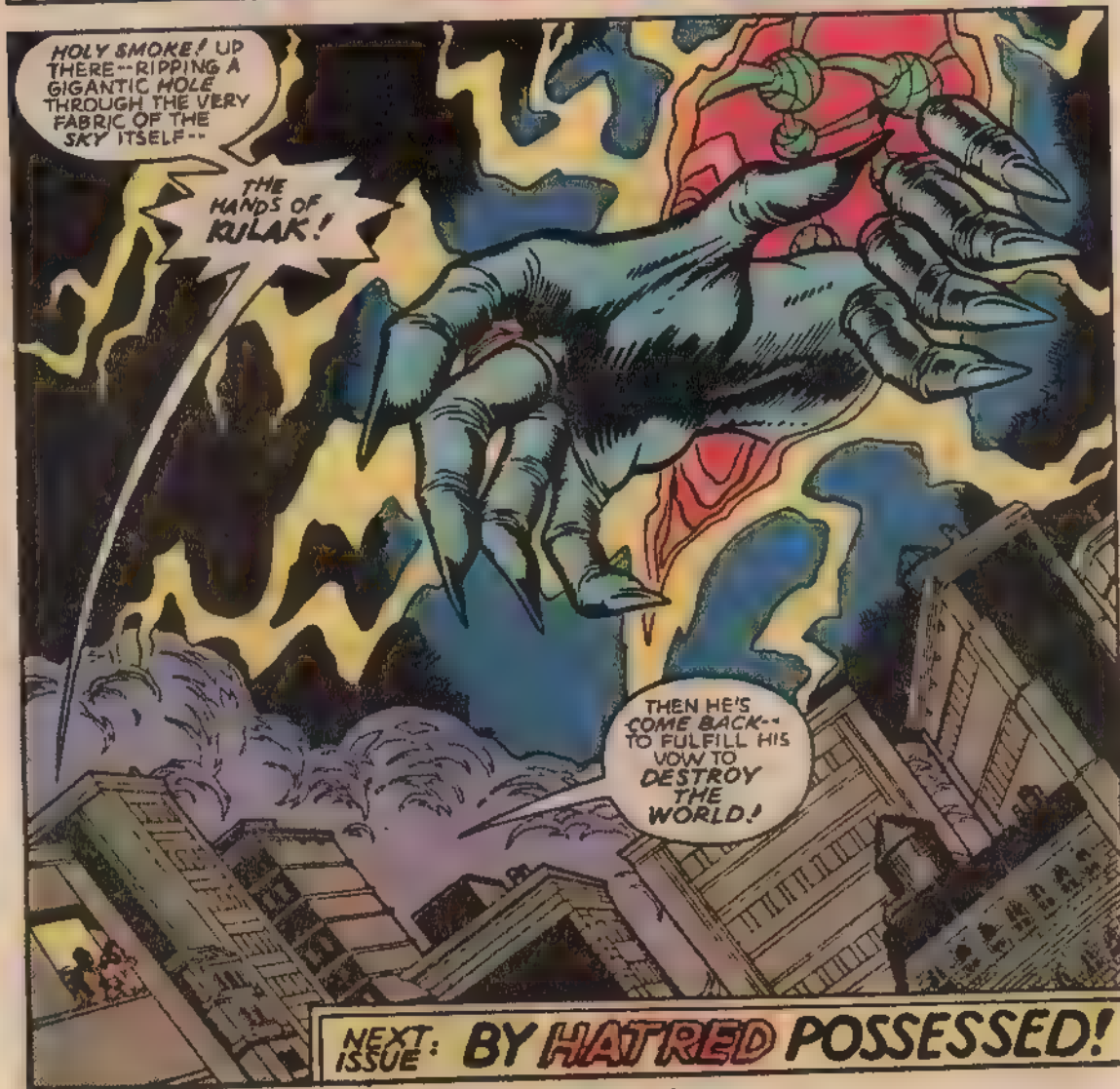


BUT I'VE SEEN THE WONDERS OF THE INVIS.B.E.
WORLD BEFORE--SO I KNOW SUCH THINGS ARE
POSSIBLE

AND ALL THIS
HAPPENED--
PERHAPS AS
MUCH AS A
DAY AGO?

THEN WHY
HASN'T KULAK
STRUCK BEFORE
NOW--IF HE'S
GOT THE KIND OF
POWER HE
CLAIMS?

SURE! THAT PROVES HE'S
JUST SPOUTING A LINE OF
BULL-- DOESN'T IT?



ALL-STAR SQUADROOM

DC COMICS, INC., 666 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10103

L-1437

SPECIAL NOTE #385 IN A SERIES (Collect 'em all):

Our thanks to artist Richard Howell for stepping in to pencil this issue (and the next) of ALL-STAR SQUADRON, so that Rick Hoberg—who's slated as regular ALL-STAR penciling starting with #29—could finish off the current CAPTAIN CARROT series. Richard, like Rick, has done journeyman work on DC's GREEN LANTERN series of late, as well as elsewhere, and we think he truly caught the spirit of our unique WWII-super-hero title.

It's "Welcome Aboard" time, too, for Larry Houston, who's Rick's and my choice as regular ALL-STAR inker. Larry, of course, inked recent issues of CAPTAIN CARROT over Rick's pencils, and the two young artists—who worked together at Marvel Productions (TV animation) here on the West Coast—expressed a desire to work together on this mag, as well. Who is Ye Editor/Writer to argue with such enthusiasm?

Meanwhile, Jerry Ordway (remember? We sure do) has volunteered to stick around as cover artist for a while, as he and I begin working on the forthcoming JUSTICE SOCIETY MINI-SERIES, to debut not that many moons from now. In addition, he'll be inking his buddy Mike Machien's pencils on the upcoming INFINITY, INC. title, which will likewise feature prominent members of the JSA, and not just Power Girl and the Huntress, either! So stick around for 1984, friends and neighbors—if you like the JSA, this is gonna be your year (just like it's gonna be mine) in three titles: ALL-STAR SQUADRON... INFINITY, INC.... and a six-issue JSA MINI-SERIES!

Small wonder why Ye Writer/Editor just celebrated his third year as a DC scripter by signing on for another three years!

—Roy Thomas.

True enough, Willis. One of the things which bothered me as writer from the very beginning of ALL-STAR SQUADRON, actually, was the absence of blacks and other minorities in any capacity in comics back in the '40's, except for an occasional (and usually awful) stereotype. The only black ever to have a "speaking line" in any of the first 57 issues of ALL-STAR COMICS, for instance, was a production worker in issue #16—though he at least was not a degrading caricature, as those things went.

It would've been simple to avoid blacks and other minorities almost entirely, but I just couldn't see it that way, and Amazing-Man had been mentally planned since before issue #1 was scripted... as were other characters who still haven't appeared (since DC hasn't acceded to my requests to publish the mag weekly, for some strange reasons).

Now that Amazing-Man is in the book—though as a regular or not, only time and other factors will tell—he automatically has to cause a certain shift in direction. How? You'll see, as we roll along. But suffice it to say that, whatever mistakes we make in future issues, we'll be trying to combine super-heroics with a reasonably accurate picture of the United States (and the world) as it was in 1942.

We're glad you liked what we attempted on Amazing-Man, who, of course, was named Will Everett after my late and good friend Bill Everett, creator of the Sub-Mariner and many other heroes, including a quite different Amazing-Man. Bill gave me his verbal blessing nearly 18 years ago, when we were roommates in Greenwich Village, to create a new hero named "Amazing-Man," and I'm just sorry I never got around to it while he was alive. I like to think, though, that Bill would have approved both of the character and his purpose; I think he would have.

—R.T.

Dear Troops,

You probably couldn't have printed a story like the one in ALL-STAR SQUADRON #23 a mere twenty or so years ago. A black super-villain back then would have had every civil rights organization screaming for your blood. Back then, we (yes, I said "we") were sort of sacred cows; nothing bad could be said about us, it seemed. This may sound strange, but I'm glad to see one of "us" as a really powerful villain during World War Two. Come to think of it, a black wasn't even shown as a petty thief, let alone as someone like Amazing-Man.

Roy, it seems you've caught perfectly the attitude of the black race during this period of time. Will Everett's social plight after the Olympics reminded me of the scene in "Roots," where Chicken George, after being freed from slavery, returns home and is told "You stay in this town long enough, and you get to be just plain n----- again!" The social commentary didn't dampen the story in the least, although I am tired of seeing "Is He Friend or Foe?" on the cover; they all end up being friends, or controlled by someone else.

Let's see more of the JSA, with or without the Squadron. After all, if it weren't for the Justice Society, there may not have been a Squadron!

Willie Holmes
8453 S. Saginaw Av.
Chicago, IL 60617

Dear Roy,

So DC Comics has added a new Afro-American to its line-up: The Amazing-Men. And in a series set in the Golden Age, no less. Thus is dispelled the long-held assumption that non-WASP super-heroes did not exist in the '40's. An important move, but not a completely satisfying one, I'm afraid, because while correcting one oversight, DC chooses to ignore another equally serious one.

I refer to the widely accepted notion manifest throughout the comics world that Afro-Americans and Afro-American males in particular all possess identical speech patterns; they all speak "street class." This means that slang terms are used in excess, that most parts of speech are used improperly, and that the final letter of any word in the present participle is omitted. If ever a printer's error results in fault skin-coloring in a comics magazine, fear not, for one may always identify any Afro-Americans present in the story by the way they talk! 99.5% of the time, they are the characters with the worst speech defects.

Whatever other faults DC Comics may have had, the vocabulary and word usage in its magazines has historically been excellent. Believe it or not, I learned much of my present vocabulary from the DC Comics I read as a child. It disturbs me now that Afro-Americans have begun to appear in comics, for some reason editors and writers feel it is necessary to lower

the high standard of language. I want them to know that by taking such action, they strengthen the foundation of thinking that states that standards must fall wherever Afro-Americans are involved, be it in housing, academics, industry, what-have-you... even as characters in comic magazines.

Please understand, I do not accuse comics professionals of willfully spreading racial prejudices, but however unwittingly, they do so. I wish that they would stop it. Would it be so hard to allow Afro-American super-heroes to speak English as well as Euro-American super-heroes do? The concept of a super-hero demands that the character be presented as a human ideal. The command that a super-hero has over the English language is just as much an ideal as the size of his pectorals. At least, I always thought so.

To end on an up note, let me state that Amazing-Man's appearance in ALL-STAR SQUADRON encourages my hope that more minority heroes are not far behind. Lastly, I must say that whoever came up with the design for A-Man's costume could give Calvin Klein something to worry about: It's a bonafide classic.

D.C. Hampton
(No Address on Letter)

Except for my own verbal input, D.C., Will Everett's costume was entirely designed by Jerry Ordway—and I agree he did a bang-up job on it, as he'd earlier done on Tarantula's new threads.

To go into detail on all the points you raise above would mean the publication of a whole separate book, but I agree that perhaps Amazing-Man was a bit too slangy in his debut in #23. You'll notice that this has changed a bit since then, however—we hope, for the better. And certainly Northwind of Infinity, Inc., introduced in #24, is (though of mixed parentage, obviously) no streetwise slangspeaker.

Let us know what you think of more recent Amazing-Man dialogue, influenced by reading such 1940's black writers as Richard Wright (Native Son) and Ralph Ellison (Invisible Man). Amazing-Man will doubtless remain, because of his rural upbringing in the 1920's and 1930's, a bit less polished in speech than some of the All-Stars, but it's certainly not our intention to indicate any kind of mental inferiority. And though he started out as nearly a traitor, we think he redeemed himself in our recent, still-on-sale ANNUAL #2. But we've still got a few surprises (pleasant ones in terms of characterization, we hope) in store for near-future issues.

R.T.

Dear All-Stars:

It is totally incredible! All the comics I buy take twenty minutes to read—all, that is, except ALL-STAR SQUADRON. It takes me 45 minutes to read. Why? Don't ask me. You sure must be doing something right; I certainly get my money's worth. P.S.: Firebrand is my favorite of the characters, but why is she always stuck in the background?

Adam Gerle
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Actually, we don't think she is, Adam—though admittedly she, Superman, and Robotman did spend a few issues tied down, didn't they? As for the length of time it takes to read a comic, we personally have never seen any special virtue either in verbosity or in brevity of comic-book dialogue. It's all in what works. For ourselves, we don't want the words to "carry" the story—but we don't want the pictures to, either. Comics are, at their best, a hybrid medium, not merely a visual one, which perhaps is why Ye Writer/Editor generally prefers movies from the 30's and 40's to the ones produced today.

—R.T.

Dear Roy and Jerry:

"The Justice Society case the world's not ready to learn about yet"? You've got me intrigued. Let's learn!

Evan M. Lancott
45 Powers Av.
San Francisco, CA 94110

You will, Evan—but not for a while.

—R.T.

POSTSCRIPTUM: In case anyone out there missed it, we just wanted to thank fan-columnist and pro editor Cat Yronwode (pronounced, she tells us, "ironwood," with "Cat" short for "Catherine") for her kind words in a recent column for the new edzine Comic FANDOM Advertiser. She wondered in print, "Did anyone but me notice that ALL-STAR SQUADRON has been displaying some great covers and exceptional splash pages of late?" She also opined that ALL-STAR "is a solid, well-crafted series, and i [sic] for one enjoy it a lot."

Actually, comics fans did start noticing Jerry Ordway's powerful yet painstakingly detailed work the moment his pencils and inks first appeared together in issue #19, and we're pleased he'll be sticking around the All-Stars/JSA in various capacities for a time (see above). Working with Jerry has been an unequivocal bell for me personally, and we both hope the enthusiasm on both our parts shows.

—R.T.

CHRIS AND VICKI UNABLE TO

DIAL "H" FOR HERO™

IN THE CLUTCHES OF THE MASTER AND HIS SUPER-VILLAINS...

CAN ANYBODY HELP THEM?

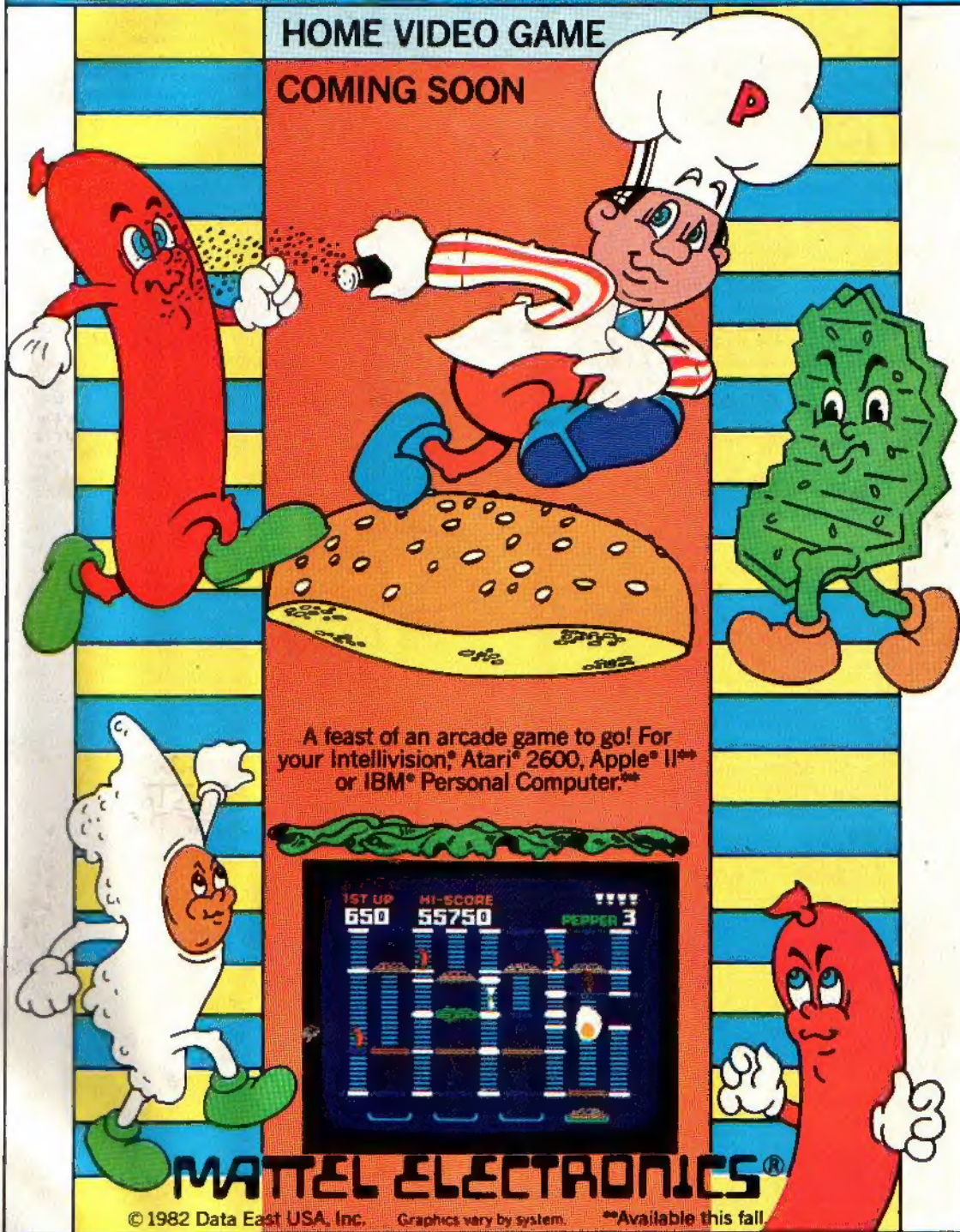
DIAL "H" FOR HERO™

YES!

FIND OUT WHO IN **SUPERBOY** #48 ON SALE SEPT. 29!

BurgerTime™

HOME VIDEO GAME
COMING SOON



A feast of an arcade game to go! For
your Intellivision®, Atari® 2600, Apple® II®
or IBM® Personal Computer.™



MATTEL ELECTRONICS®

© 1982 Data East USA, Inc. Graphics vary by system. **Available this fall.

*Trademark of Data East USA, Inc., used under license.

© Mattel Electronics, Inc. 1983 All Rights Reserved.

JAMES BOND
007
 VIDEO GAME CARTRIDGE

**"Sensational, a real thriller...
 It's James Bond all the way."**

"The action was so involving, it made me
 feel just like the master spy himself."

—Daily Platter

"Karate kicks, jumps, lasers and more..."

"A truly unique home video game. Captures Bond at his best."

—Morley Unsauer

**"Knife throwers,
 gunmen and the
 James Bond theme
 to boot..."**

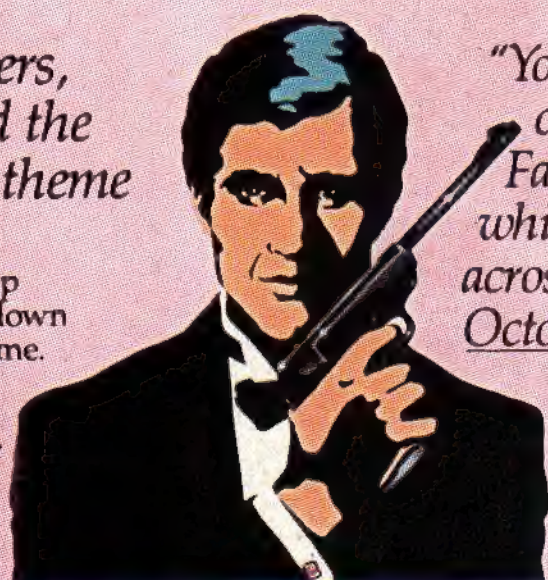
"It's Bond every step
 of the way. Right down
 to the musical theme.
 The thrills are
 non-stop."

—The Rolling Pebble

**"The longer
 the game went
 on, the more
 furious the
 chase
 became..."**

"When Bond
 leaped from train
 to train, my heart
 skipped a beat."

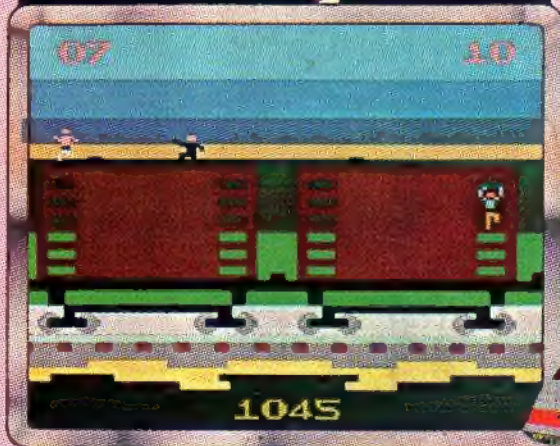
—Boston Orb



**"You'll try to
 capture the
 Fabergé gems
 while bounding
 across the speeding
 Octopussy Circus
 Train..."**

"The Bond
 home video
 game is a
 priceless gem."

—Vincent Can't be



For your Atari 2600 Video Computer System™ and the Sears Video Arcade.™ Coming soon for Intellivision.®

PARKER BROTHERS

© Eon Productions/Oldrose Publications Limited 1983. Atari™ and Atari Video Computer System™ are trademarks of Atari, Inc. Sears Video Arcade™ is a trademark of Sears, Roebuck & Co. Intellivision® is a registered trademark of Mattel, Inc. Parker Brothers is not affiliated with Mattel, Inc. © 1983 Parker Brothers, Beverly, MA 01815